James City Cavalry
Picket Lines

November 2026 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
One Week Early!

Wednesday, November 18th, 2026, 6:30 pm
Colonial Heritage Club House
www.colonialheritageclub.com
6500 Arthur Hills Drive
Williamsburg, VA 23188



Meal Cost: $23.00 Per Person
Payment by check or exact cash only please.
Non-camp members please contact Jeff Toalson (757) 220-0131 or troon24@cox.net to make a dinner reservation. Camp members will be contacted by the "Call Team" for your 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. To email one of the camp officers directly, see **Camp Officers** on page 3.

November Guest Speaker

(Submitted by 1st. Lt. Cmdr. Ron Perry)

Tom Karow
Antique Appraiser

"Early Virginia Silver & Silversmiths"



A Richmond Light Infantry Blues Pendant produced in 1793 for W. F. Watson, an Honorary Member. In the VMHC collection VMHC 1998.113.AB

Virginia has a long history in the production of silverware. In the 1700s and early 1800s she had several well-known silversmiths including a few women. Tom will bring selected objects from his personal collection and relate a variety of stories on the history of the production and artistry by these craftsmen.

Tom Karow, a frequent guest at our meetings with Marilyn Iglesias, is an appraiser of antiques and a collector of early Virginia silver objects. He is currently serving as the President of the Board of Directors of the Fairfield Foundation which is headquartered in Gloucester. He and Marilyn were the historical guides for two bus loads of U.D.C. ladies that visited Mathews on October 28th for a Sally Thompkins tour.

Camp Journal for Last Muster

Meeting:
Held on October 28th at 6:30 PM at Colonial Heritage Club House, James City County, Va., **30 a**ttendees

Welcome given by Cmdr. Jeff Toalson

Pledge & Salute to the Flags led by Treasurer Jon Holland

Blessing:
Given by Sr. Chaplain George Corbett

Break for Supper

The SCV Charge read by Compatriot George Bridewell
The SCV Creed read by Compatriot Jim O'Donnell

Program:
1st Lt. Cmdr. Perry introduced the evening's guest speaker:
Kenny Bage
Past Commander of the
Virginia Division, SCV

Kenny's talk "*Relics Reunited*" told the story of Lt. Colonel Richard Thompson, how Kenny acquired the uniform which has the rips and tears from the shell fragments, and how Chris Calkins gave him the shrapnel and other items which he had found years earlier. A fascinating journey that included several hospitals, a long recovery and a life and career that lasted till 1914.



1st Lt. Cmdr. Perry and our speaker Kenny Bage with the frock coat worn by Lt. Colonel Thompson.

Committee Reports and Announcements:

Old & New Business

- Comments - Cmdr. Jeff Toalson
- Report on Sam Davis Camp – Joe & Joshua Wert
- Christmas Party – Cmdr. Jeff Toalson
- November Meeting one week early on November 18
- Oct 30 UDC National Convention at Williamsburg Lodge
- Fort Magruder Memorial Service will be May 16 in 2027
- November Speaker Tom Karow "Early Virginia Silver & Silversmiths"
- November 11 Veterans Day Ceremony at Cedar Grove - TBD

Book Raffle
Proceeds of $63 were donated to the Camp Treasury from the raffle of the four donations.

Benediction
Given by Father Bob Miller



Camp Officers

Commander	Jeff Toalson troon24@cox.net
1st Lt. Commander	Ron Perry perryra@gmail.com
2nd Lt. Commander	Steve White
Adjutant	Dave Watson djwatson61@cox.net
Chief of Staff	Ken Parsons kparsons320@gmail.com
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Senior Chaplain	George Corbett georgecorbett@cox.net
Chaplain	David Stover gor_cabot1@msn.com
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Webmaster	Don Woolridge dsw1229@gmail.com
Archivist/Editor	Paul Huelskamp jccpicketlinesdistribution@gmail.com

WBTS in November 1863

Federal Assault on Ft. Sumter

Federal forces bombarded the Confederate-held rubble of the fort throughout the month but failed to dislodge the rebel garrison from the island.



Commander's Comments

Mr. Kenny Bage, of the Dearing-Beauregard Camp, provided a marvelous presentation entitled *Relics Reunited* at the October meeting. He had acquired the original frock coat of Lt. Col. Richard Thompson of the 12th New Jersey Infantry which bears witness to the impact of cannon fire on the human body and uniform. The Colonel was hit in the left thumb, the right lower ribcage and the groin and lower abdomen area with shrapnel from a Hotchkiss shell. Chris Calkins gave Kenny the major piece of shrapnel that the Colonel had saved that struck him in the ribs. Kenny has acquired other photographs and items from the Reams Station battlefield and the church where the Colonel was taken following his wounding. You can hold up the lower part of the frock coat to let light through the 20 plus holes where little pieces of shrapnel tore paths into his lower body. This amazing presentation was enjoyed by all.

Paul has attached a variety of information on our Christmas Party which will be held on Wednesday, December 9 from 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Olive Branch Christian Church. They have an awesome Fellowship Hall with full kitchen and serving tables, plenty of seating for our 50-70 people, our silent auction and our holiday book raffle. Our own Joe Duggan and his guitar will be providing a selection of tunes for our entertainment. The basic Christmas Supper flyer and the Book Raffle flyer are attached (these are non-war books . . . great books for Christmas presents).

The Camp is providing a large ham as the main course. Each family should choose a side, a salad, or a dessert to bring as your contribution to the party. There is no charge . . . the side is your entry fee. Remember, we will have over 50 people so bring a generous sized bowl of corn pudding or whatever you choose. We have plenty of electrical outlets so you can bring hot items for the buffet. **Mark December 9 on your calendars.** We need to restart this tradition that got derailed by Covid.

Jeff

Greenmount Farm Journal

(Contributed by Historian Fred Boelt)

We continue here with excerpts from Thomas Wynne's farm journal and his insights on the war locally in November 1861:

Friday, November 1st…That portion of the fifth La. Regiment stationed in Williamsburg went below today. Five new regiments landed in Yorktown this week. Our forces here now are estimated at between 35 and 40 thousand.

Tuesday, November 5th…Four troopers dined with us today. They were in search of stray horses.

Saturday, November 9th…Three soldiers stay with us tonight from the 10th Georgia Regiment. Fannie sold a ham weighing 10 lbs. to one of the soldiers this morning for $2.50.

Tuesday, November 12th…Mr. Hinton of the Mecklenburg Cavalry and his father stay with us tonight.

Friday, November 15th…The day having been appointed by the president as a day of fasting and humiliation, I abstained from breakfast and proceeded at the usual hour to the church, but owing to the inclement weather, we had no meeting.

Tuesday, November 19th…Two of the cavalry called on me for my wagon to haul corn from Curtis' landing – could not hire it.

Wednesday, November 20th…Moses returned home from the fortification on Mulberry Point this morning.

Saturday, November 23rd…Went to [Lebanon] church this morning. Had only seven persons present, including the preacher. The people seem as if they had no use for religion in these times of war and military commotion.

Monday, November 25th…Papers report fighting at Fort Pickens.

Friday, November 29th…Two soldiers from the Tenth Georgia Regiment took supper with us and went down to the wharf. They are on their way home on a furlough of 25 days.

To be continued.

Franklin Battlefield – Franklin, Tennessee

(Contributed by Compatriot Langston Shelton)

A brand-new statue has been dedicated on the Franklin battlefield. It is a statue to May-Me who was the "lead mule" pulling a 2-gun battery for the 6th Ohio Artillery. There are statues to various pets of military units such as dogs and birds of prey and statues to horses, but this is probably a first for a mule. Both armies used many mules and horses to pull all sorts of limbers and wagons for artillery, materials, supplies and the evacuation of wounded.

Lt. Adam Weaver of the 104th Ohio Infantry wrote to his wife about May-Me on November 30, 1864, from what would become the Franklin battlefield. It was just hours away from General Hood making his worst decision as a commander of Confederate troops.

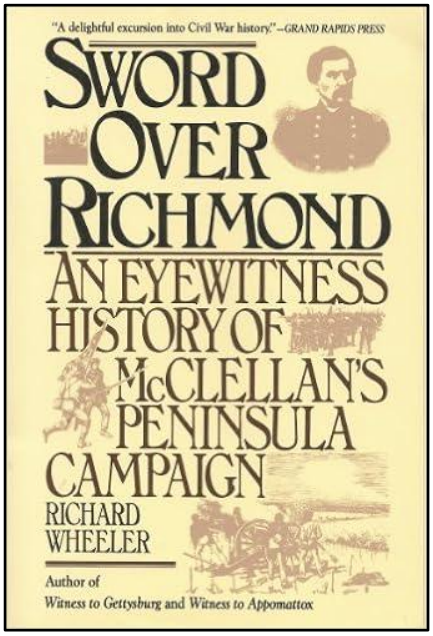
Dearest Charlotte
It is now 12:00 noon and fairly quiet . . . the day is bright and warm, but the air seems hazy . . . Artillery is being placed near the gap at the pike [Columbia Turnpike] and just a few steps away the 6th Ohio [Artillery] have placed a gun battery. The battery was pulled by mules, which have been trained to lie down in action. The leader mule is called May-Me and wears an old felt hat with holes cut for her ears to stick through. Lieutenant Baldwin of the 4th Corps is the battery commander. It is a privilege and honor to serve alongside this famed unit . . ."

The statue depicts May-Me with her ears sticking through her felt hat lying down after the guns have been unlimbered and are ready for action.

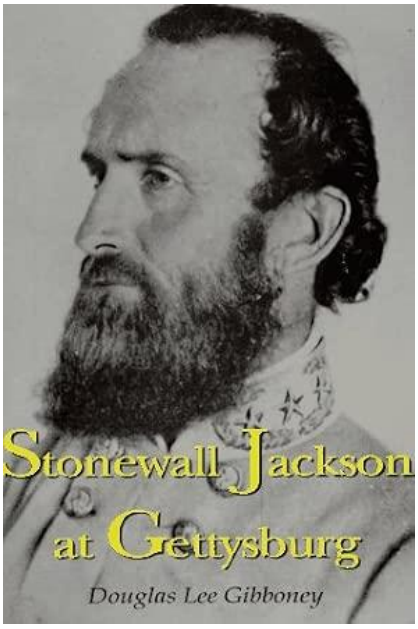


November Book Raffle

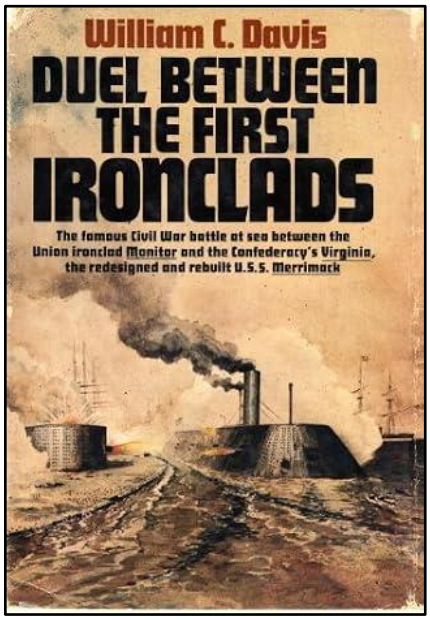
(Contributed by Compatriot Derick Hayman)



"Sword over Richmond"
By Richard Wheeler

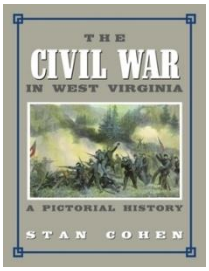


"Stonewall Jackson at Gettysburg"
By Douglas Lee Gibboney

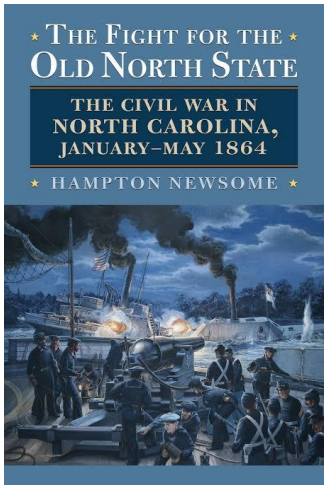


"Duel between the First Ironclads"
By William C. Davis

Bonus Book:
"The Civil War in West Virginia"
By Stan Cohen



Williamsburg Civil War Round Table



http://www.wcwrt.org

At 6:30 PM on November 24th at the Williamsburg Library Theatre - Hampton Newsome will present:

"The Civil War in North Carolina, January – May 1864"

Join the James City Cavalry

At a Confederate Christmas Supper!



A book raffle and silent auction of WBTS and other items will be held.

Joe Duggan will be strumming tunes on his guitar.

The Camp is providing baked ham and requesting one large potluck dish from each family/party. We are expecting over 50 attendees.

JCC Christmas Trivia Question:
Saint Nick or Steve White?

Wednesday, December 9th, 2026

5:00 pm – 8:30 pm

at the

Olive Branch Church

7643 Richmond Road, Williamsburg, VA 23188

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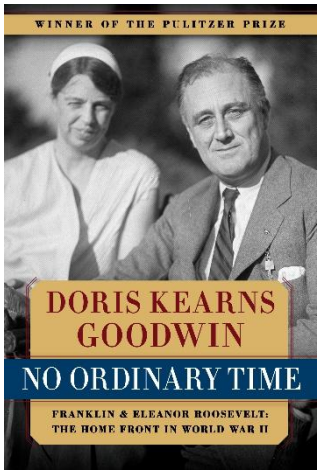
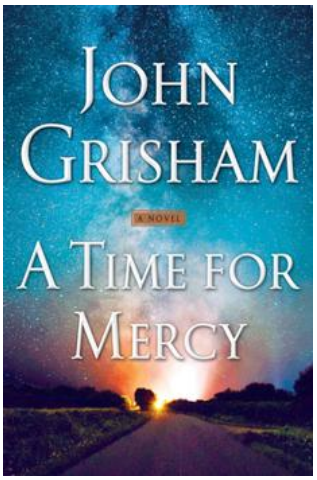
Weather will not impact this location. We can park and unload on the lower level and then move the cars to the upper lot to park.

Christmas Presents Raffle

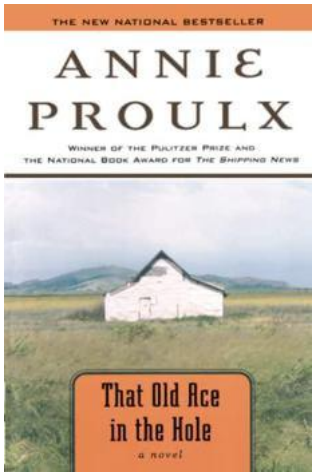
Support our camp Speaker Fund and win a gift for someone on your Christmas list.



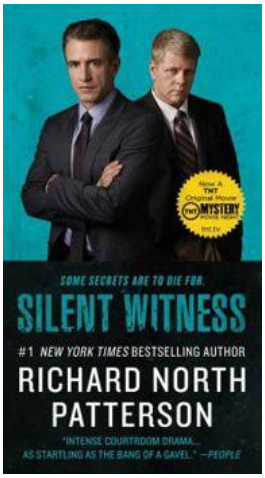
Doris K. Goodwin
"No Ordinary Time"



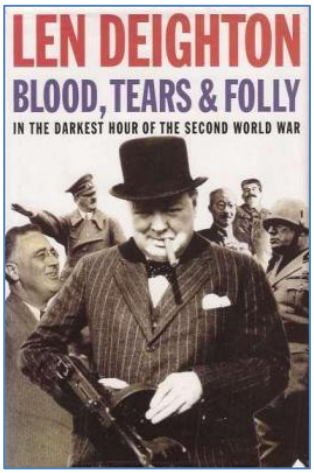
John Grisham
"A Time For Mercy"



Anne Proulx
"That Old Ace In The Hole"



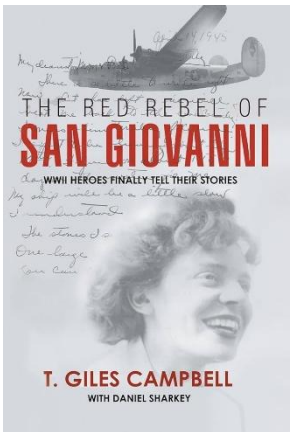
Richard North Patterson
"Silent Witness"



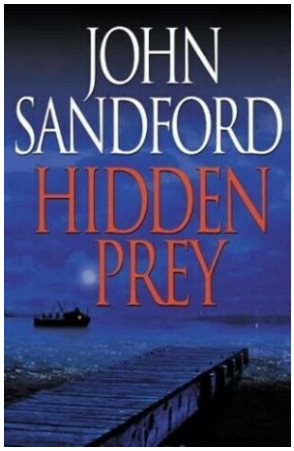
Len Deighton
"Blood, Tears and Folly"



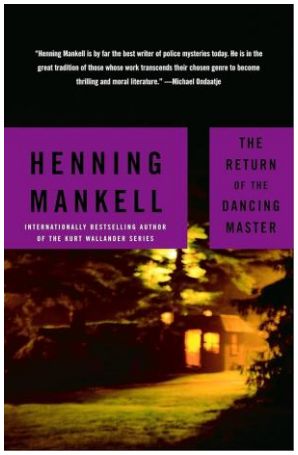
Craig Ferguson
"American on Purpose"



Tom Campbell
"The Red Rebel of San Giovanni"



John Sandford
"Hidden Prey"



Henning Mankell
"The Return of the Dancing Master"