

James City Cavalry PICKET LINES



August 2008

Last Meeting: The meeting of July 23rd featured Brantley Knowles as our guest speaker. Brantley is an old friend of the Confederacy; having served on the Board of the Museum of the Confederacy and is an active member of the UDC. She spoke to us about the role of Jamestown in the War and gave us some idea of the excavations that have taken place at Jamestown to document the history of the island. We also saw our camp continue to grow as we inducted Jamie Berry, Fred Breeden, and Billy Hines into the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be held at Hog Wild Bar B Q on Wednesday, August 27. We will open at 7 pm with our speaker coming on at 7:30. This month we are pleased to have with us Waite Rawles, executive director of the Museum of the Confederacy. This will be Waite's second trip to our camp and he will again give us an update on the future plans for the museum and on how they are doing in the confines of the MCV.

The Executive Committee met on August 20th and is referring several items to the membership:

1. *Penniman Road Park:* There is a Confederate Park (Fort Magruder) on Penniman Road. This park is owned by the Williamsburg Chapter of the UDC. Evidently, they have leased the park to the War Museum in Newport News. The War Museum is not doing a very good job at keeping it up. There is a flagpole and granite memorial on the site. The question is: Should we, as a Camp, approach the War Museum and ask to have the park sub-leased to us for our care? We are exploring the legal consequences of our caretaking this property. We probably could easily incorporate this into our care of Peach Park, Sunnyside and other cemeteries in the area.

2. *Work Days:* Since the camp has undertaken the restoration and maintenance of several cemeteries containing the remains of Confederate Soldiers, it is clear that we need a little more organization in our efforts. We advanced the idea of scheduling work days to perform tasks at these various properties. Obviously, there will be more work days in the summer than in the fall and winter. We would communicate to the membership via e-mail and phone.
3. *State Fair:* Our Camp should man the SCV Booth at the Fair for at least one day. Usually a day is from 10 am until 10 pm. This gives us exposure and a potential for new membership in the SCV. The Fair runs from September 25 through Oct 5. Ken Parsons is checking to see what dates are available.
4. *Convention of the Virginia Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans:* We have been approached as to our willingness to host/participate in a Virginia Division Convention in Williamsburg. We should expect to be helpful in manning desks and making arrangements for accommodations and entertainment for this event. Ken Parsons is checking to see exactly what would be expected from us.

With all of the above, we ask that you, as a Camp member, reflect on your personal interest in any or all of these things and on whether you are willing to pledge your time to them. In the event of a vote on consensus, if you are not interested and are not willing to pledge your time, please either abstain or vote "no."

Thanks.

Those of you, who are proof-reading for Jeff Toalson, please return your work to him at the meeting. Bring a guest/or prospective member

We continue with contributions by Fred Boelt on gravesites and the diary of his great-great uncle:

GREENMOUNT FARM JOURNAL

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

Friday, August 2nd ...Magruder is moving forces down toward Hampton.

Monday, August 5th ... Mr. Picon of the 2nd Louisiana Regiment spent the day with us...Gave supper to 7 men of the Georgia Regiment, who are on their way to Young's Mill to join Genl Magruder's forces.

Wednesday, August 7th ...The papers report that Newport News has been evacuated.

Thursday, August 8th ...Heard that Hampton was burned last night.

Friday, August 9th ...Dr. Read, chaplain of the 5th La. Regiment dined and spent the evening with us. A soldier by the name of Moss of the 14th Va. Regiment, who called in here last evening from a sever attack of cramp, went back to camp.

Wednesday, August 14th ...The 5th Louisiana regiment returned from below to their quarters at Grove Wharf.

Thursday, August 15th ... The Virginia and Georgia Regiments came up today.

Saturday, August 17th ...Today's paper contradicts the report of the capture of McCulloch by the Federals in Missouri, but confirms the account of the defeat of the latter at the late battle near Springfield.

Wednesday, August 21st ... Returned from Richmond today – Goods excessively high – Found that four of my men had been ordered into Mulberry Island to work on the fortifications. Went down on yesterday.

Monday, August 26th ...The Quartermaster at Yorktown called for our wagon, four mules and driver. Having sent my hands to work on the fortifications in Warwick, had none to send him.

Wednesday, August 28th ...in the evening, Uncle Alex Perkins [Wynne's uncle who was a doctor living in King William County at the time] and Mr. Johnson of King William arrived..They had been sent down to Yorktown to move away some of the sick soldiers to King Wm. And hiring a conveyance from old Mr. White came out and spent the night with us.

Saturday, August 31st ... Three of my hands are still at work on the fortifications in Mulberry Island. *To be continued.*

JAMES CITY COUNTY CONFEDERATE GRAVESITES

“Alabama” is a farm of approximately 400 acres located at the northwest intersection of Croaker and Ware Creek Roads. The Allen family was in possession of this farm in 1812 when Michael Sherman Warren married Elizabeth Butler Allen at her home. By 1816, Warren had acquired title to the farm from his father-in-law and brother-in-law. He retained ownership until 1844 when he sold the farm to John Relyea, but the land returned to Warren soon after and he sold it again in 1849 to Richard Harwood Whitaker.

The family cemetery there has the graves of two Confederate veterans, both sons of Michael S. and Elizabeth Warren. James Robert Warren, born June 17, 1818, attended the College of William and Mary in 1837/38, and married Georgianna Rebecca Chandler on February 23, 1847. James enlisted in the James City Artillery in Williamsburg on May 16, 1861. He was appointed 2nd Lieutenant on July 1st and was absent, sick on the December roster of that year. His wife died on December 22, 1861 which may explain his absence. He was present on rolls for February and April 1862, but there is no further record for him after that. James died on October 6, 1882 and was buried beside his wife and young son in the family cemetery.

Henry B. Warren was born on November 24, 1834, and like his older brother, attended the College of William and Mary in 1854-56. He enlisted in Company W, 3rd Virginia Cavalry in Williamsburg on June 24, 1861 and was discharged on August 2, 1861. He re-enlisted in Company H, 5th Virginia Cavalry in Williamsburg on March 1, 1862, was in a Richmond hospital in August 1862, absent on horse detail in November-December 1863, was present on the roll in January and issued clothing in July 1864. His service record stopped there. Henry died on June 12, 1904. His obituary stated that he had lived in Kentucky for several years after the war. He then returned to James City County where he farmed and served as a county judge. He died in Richmond while undergoing medical treatment and was interred “in the old family burying ground at ‘Alabama’ farm.”

As stated above, Richard Whitaker had purchased “Alabama” in 1849, but he died in 1857. By the time the war broke out, his son Richard and his young family and Richard’s younger brother, George William Whitaker, were living there. Richard enlisted in Company W, 3rd Virginia Cavalry in Williamsburg on June 24, 1861. He served as sergeant but was discharged due to illness in August. At some time, he re-enlisted in Company H, 5th Virginia Cavalry but died at his residence on February 25, 1862 and was buried at Olive Branch Church.

Brother George enlisted in Company C, 32nd Virginia Infantry in Williamsburg on June 28, 1861, transferred to Company I, 3rd Virginia Cavalry and later again, transferred to Company H, 5th Virginia Cavalry in Williamsburg on May 1, 1862. He was active throughout the war with the last entry on his service record showing that he was in a hospital in Richmond in March 1865. After the war, he eventually moved to Richmond and died on October 11, 1911 and was buried in Hollywood cemetery there.

“Alabama” remained within Confederate lines and was a haven for extended family members seeking refuge from their homes on the lower peninsula.

**Duty is the most sublime word in our language. Do your duty in all things.
You cannot do more. You should never wish to do less.**

General Robert E. Lee

CAMP JOURNAL

July 23, 2008

- Meeting held at Hog Wild, James City County, VA
 - 22 attendees
- Welcome given by CDR David Ware
- Invocation given by Chaplain Bill Blizzard
- US flag pledge, CS flag salute, Virginia flag salute by the group
- The Charge was not read
- Introduction of guests
- June minutes approved as published in “*Picket Lines*”
- June Treasurer’s Report presented and approved
- Committee Reports:
 - None
- Old Business:
 - None
- New Business:
 - 3 new Compatriots were inducted
 - Fred Breeden, Billy Hynes and Jamie Berryhill
 - Camp donations collected by CMP Jeff Toalson, \$48
 - Vicksburg Coin (*CMP Jeff Toalson*) & T-Shirt (*LT CDR Don Woolridge*)
 - Program: *Jamestown Island, Confederate Fort* by Mrs. Brantley Bolling Knowles a frequent lecturer on colonial and Confederate history in Virginia:
 - Presentation discussed the role of the Confederate Fort at Jamestown Island, occupation by Union Forces, and the 2007 archeological dig of the fort.
 - Confederates used the fort for Naval observation of the James River and as part of the Richmond defenses
 - The Union Army used it as an outpost after the Confederates abandoned it, and at war’s end as an Oath-of-Allegiance site
 - Motion made by CMP Robert Tuck to donate \$100 to SCV Florida Division for their “Flags Across Florida” program.
 - Seconded by LT CDR Don Woolridge
 - Motion carried
 - CDR Dave Ware reminded all Compatriates to spend Camp funds sparingly and wisely
 - CMP Steve White announced the donation of 4 trees by Pete Dozier to be planted at “Peach Park” cemetery in the Fall
- Next Meeting: August 27 @ 7:00 P.M. @ Hog Wild
- Benediction given by Chaplain Blizzard
- Adjourned @ 9:00 P.M.