



James City Cavalry Picket Lines



August 2024 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

Wednesday, August 28th, 2024, 6:30 pm
Colonial Heritage Club House
www.colonialheritageclub.com/find-us
6500 Arthur Hills Drive
Williamsburg, VA 23188



Meal Cost: \$20.00 Per Person
Payment by Check is Preferred

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.

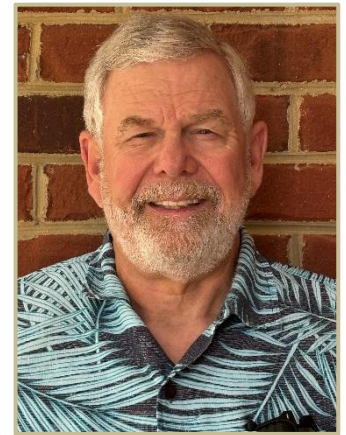
JCC Web Site: <http://www.jamescitycavalry.org>

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.

August Guest Speaker

Navy Captain Robert Kennedy
(Ret.)

“A History of the Confederate Submarine H. L. Hunley”



Former Navy Captain and Isle of Wight Compatriot Robert Kennedy will provide a multi-level talk on the amazing *H. L. Hunley*. He will discuss the strategic requirements, the development of this innovative weapon, and the highlights of her construction in Mobile and deployment in Charleston. This will include her two tragic sinkings prior to her successful attack on the U.S.S. *Housatonic*. Bob will discuss search efforts, discovery and recovery. Finally, he will discuss excavation and restoration and the continued work on her in N. Charleston, S.C.

Captain Bob Kennedy hails from the Tarheel State. He enlisted in the Navy after high school and rose from an enlisted man to the rank of Captain during his 37-year career. He volunteers as a docent on the U.S.S. Wisconsin and loves to travel to locations with great wineries, great seafood and WBTS naval history, especially Confederate naval history.

Camp Journal for Last Muster

Meeting:

Held July 24th at 6:30 PM at Colonial Heritage Club House,
James City County, Va., **41** Attendees

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 Quartermaster George Bridewell

Program:

1st Lt. Cmdr. Perry introduced the evening's guest speakers:

Mrs. Cookie Batten & Mr. Sam Winkler

They presented "*President Jefferson Davis Reminisces*",
a marvelous first-person presentation of the lives of Varina and
Jefferson Davis during the most turbulent time in our nation's history.



1st Lt. Commander Ron Perry (L) welcomes President Jefferson Davis,
and his wife Varina

Committee Reports and Announcements:

- Adjutant's Report – Chief of Staff Ken Parsons
 - 47 members have paid their dues to date
- Comments - Cmdr. Jeff Toalson
 - The State Fair was discussed. Camp volunteers will man the booth from 10:00 a.m. until closing.
- Sam Davis Youth Camp - Camper Christopher Wert and Staffer Joe Wert

Book Raffle

Proceeds of \$113 were donated to the Camp Treasury
for the raffle of the four donations.

Benediction

Given by Chaplain David Stover



Camp Officers

Commander	Jeff Toalson troon24@cox.net
1st Lt. Commander	Ron Perry perryra@gmail.com
2nd Lt. Commander	Steve White garrettsgrocery@gmail.com
Adjutant	Dave Watson djwatson61@cox.net
Chief of Staff	Ken Parsons kparsons320@gmail.com
Treasurer	Jon Holland jonholland79@gmail.com
Senior Chaplain	George Corbett georgecorbett@cox.net
Chaplain	David Stover gor_cabot1@msn.com
Quartermaster	George Bridewell gbridewell@aol.com
Historian	Fred Boelt fwb@widomaker.com
Webmaster	Don Woolridge dsw1229@gmail.com
Archivist/Editor	Paul Huelskamp jccpicketlinesdistribution@gmail.com

Oakwood Cemetery Donation

Oakwood Cemetery in Richmond, Virginia, is the final resting place for more than 16,000 Confederate dead. Our Camp had the honor, in July, to donate \$400 to their general fund to support the maintenance and upkeep of this hallowed ground.



Commander's Comments

It will be a pleasure to have Compatriot Robert Kennedy, of the Isle of Wight Avengers, as our speaker. This man has salt water in his veins. It only follows that after a 37 year career in the U. S. Navy he would love naval history. What better topic than the C. S. Submarine *H. L. Hunley*. This should be a very educational evening. The Cavalry looks forward to Bob's visit.

Several members of the Avengers will be joining Bob as his posse and they will be reclaiming the Billy Mahone Traveling Pistol. Maybe when it is back on the southside of the James some other Camps will visit the Avengers and go home with the pistol.

A marvelous July meeting as 41 of you personally know. The President and Mrs. Davis were spellbinding. This was my fourth time to hear Sam Winkler, in character as Jefferson Davis, and I think it was the best of those four talks.

We had received 47 or 48 dues checks when I last spoke with Dave and Ken. We have probably topped 50 by now which means we have 10 members who need to send in their dues to avoid the late fee.

You will see in this issue that Compatriot Lang Shelton has installed two Southern Crosses of Honor. The Camp has ordered 2 crosses and Steve White and crew will be installing those after the first cold snap. Fred Boelt has selected the next two soldiers from our Confederate dead in the Olive Branch Christian Cemetery.

After a meeting with Bill Brown at Cedar Grove Cemetery we confirmed that 1st Lt. William H. E. Morecock of the 32nd Virginia Infantry does not have a military marker or any military information on his civilian stone. Fred Boelt is beginning the process to acquire a stone from the Veterans Administration.

Remember, we serve in their memory.

Jeff Toalson

Confederate Gravesites

(Contributed by Compatriot Fred Boelt)

In the July edition of *Picket Lines*, the Wade children's reminiscences of the Civil War on the peninsula brought us through the winter encampments, waiting for spring weather and the Union push toward Richmond. We again look at their writings for civilian insight into the Peninsula Campaign of 1862. Parts of a diary kept by Lucy Elizabeth Wade (1846 – 1892) have survived and chronicle a glimpse of life in York County.

“One Saturday night [May 3, 1862] after we had been expecting long for the great battle of Yorktown to commence, we heard heavy firing in the direction of Yorktown, they were the loudest that we had ever heard, and we thought surely the ‘ball’ had opened (as the Yankees called it), so we anxiously awaited the next morning to see what the results would be. When morning came, however, firing was discontinued. After a while, we heard by some means that Yorktown was evacuated, and our troops were retreating towards Richmond. In the evening, we heard heavy firing which seemed more distant than Yorktown. Yet we were in hopes that Yorktown had not been evacuated by the Confederates. We waited patiently for several days but could hear nothing. Oh! How dreadful the suspense.

At last, we saw some Negroes who had deserted their masters in the army and came down to the Yankees. They said that Yorktown had been evacuated and gave us some particulars....On Monday [May 5, 1862] we heard the fighting at Williamsburg, we knew that fighting was going on but could hear no particulars. On Wednesday we heard that some miles above Williamsburg our people leaving became exhausted, and being closely pursued by the federal army, were obliged to stop and fight, that the army had been completely cut off, and that there were fifty thousand killed. Oh! What dreadful news and how distressed we were, but amidst all our distress I could not help thinking that it was some Yankee lie raised to distress the people here, which afterwards it proved to be.” Communications at the time of the Civil War were poor at best, compared to today's media coverage of similar events. The citizens constantly suffered from misinformation gotten from unreliable sources, adding to the stress of the war.

After the evacuation had started, “we had heard by this time that Pa (Chidley Wade) was a prisoner, he had gotten cut off from the army and was trying to make his way home where he thought he would not see any Yanks when he was arrested and carried to Yorktown and imprisoned. Now this was a sad trial for us, to think how much poor Pa was suffering in prison. The first news we received of Pa's imprisonment, Mr. Bartlett, an old Yankee traitor, came by here and brought Ma (Ann Cary Curtis Wade) a pocketbook that Pa had sent her. [The manuscript is torn and a part is missing here, but as it continues, Lucy seemed to be recording Mr. Bartlett's story of how Wade and perhaps a few comrades were attempting to get to their homes.] ...where they slept until morning. They woke next morning about light and resumed their journey. They considered it unsafe to travel any longer in the woods so they decided it best to face the dangers of the road. But the first sight that met their eyes after they found the road was a Yankee camp; they skimmed that and came to a large body of Yankees, those they passed unnoticed. Everywhere they would turn, they could see them, they laid down in the bushes until the main body of the Yankee army had passed and nothing kept them from being discovered but the drizzling rain. After the army had passed they got up and continued their journey and all let them pass until at length they met with some who arrested them. They were taken with some twelve or thirteen other prisoners that the Yankees had taken, and carried them up to Mr. Clarke's farm [present day Marlbank Farm manor house]. On the way, Pa met Mr. Bartlett and entrusted him with a message to Ma.”

We will find out in September how Pa fared as a Yankee prisoner.

Gettysburg: 161st Anniversary Pickett's Charge Trek

Cavalry compatriot Jon Holland, his son Thomas and his father Robert trekked the route of Pickett's Charge at the Gettysburg battlefield on July 3, 2024. 5 year old Thomas carried the 2nd National Flag across the field in very windy conditions. As they approached the stone wall, at the Angle, young Thomas received a standing ovation from the Union re-enactors and the spectators for having the strength to carry the flag across the entire valley.



Thomas has passed the mid-point of the trek. A copse of trees, the stone wall and Cushing's battery await at their objective on Cemetery Ridge..



The descendants of Sgt. Samuel H. Holland, Co. E - 9th Virginia Infantry gather in the trees on Seminary Ridge to honor his memory. L to R: Jon Holland, Thomas Holland and Robert Holland.

Sam Davis Youth Camp - 2024



Our James City Cavalry Camper, Christopher Wert, preparing for a 'fire by file' drill with the 1860s era weapons. Christopher Wert (L) with his friends Reese and John. Christopher had a great week and his father, Compatriot Joe Wert, served as part of the volunteer staff.

2024 SCV Booth at the Virginia State Fair

Cavalrymen - Our date is Friday, October 4th. We need 8 volunteers so we can work two 4 man shifts of 6 hours each. Look at your calendar now and pencil the State Fair in. Send me an email with your preference of morning or evening shift.



2023 – Tom, Derick & Perry



2022 – Lang, Tom and a mystery volunteer

1st Lt. William Morecock's Gravestone

Out at Cedar Grove Cemetery the caretaker, Bill Brown, trimmed back the boxwood branches that covered the Lieutenant's grave. As you can see there is nothing to recognize his service in the 32nd Virginia Infantry. Fred Boelt will be creating the paperwork to send to the V.A. and hopefully we will be granted approval and a stone will be sent our way. We will keep you up to date on this project.



Two Cross of Honor Installations

In July Compatriot Lang Shelton installed a Southern Cross of Honor at the gravesites of two of his Confederate ancestors.



Private Henry Clay Page served in Carrington's (Charlottesville) Light Artillery and was wounded in the battle of Port Republic on 6/8/1862 and given a surgeon's discharge from the service on July 28th. His cross was installed on July 22, 2024 at the Hebron Baptist Church Cemetery in Afton, Virginia.



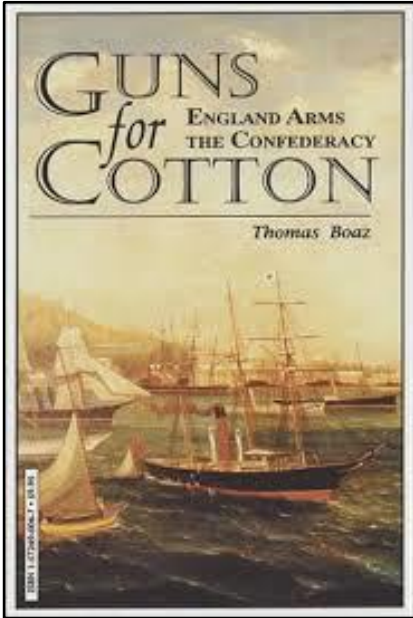
Private William Jessie Shelton served in Company I, 36th Virginia Infantry. His ending war record is incomplete because the unit was practically destroyed at Waynesboro on March 2, 1865. Jessie surrendered and was paroled in Southwestern Virginia in the late spring of 1865. His cross was installed on July 22, 2024 at the Old Pearisburg Cemetery in Pearisburg, Virginia.



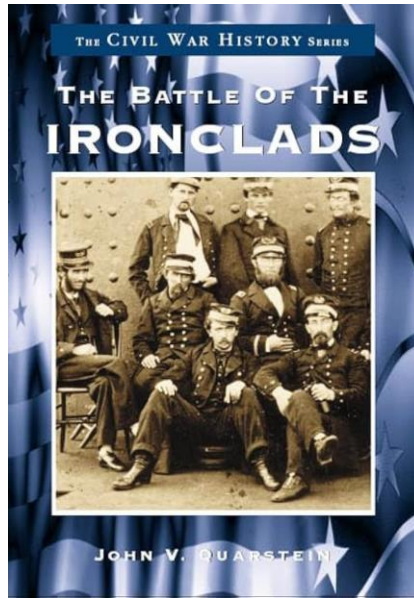
Compatriot Lang Shelton shown with the Shelton headstone at the Old Pearisburg Cemetery.

August Book Raffle

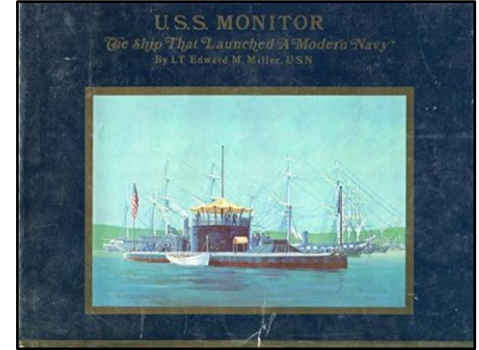
War on the Water



"Guns for Cotton" by Thomas Boaz

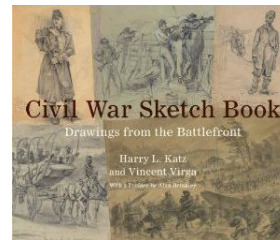


"Battle of the Ironclads" by John V. Quarstein

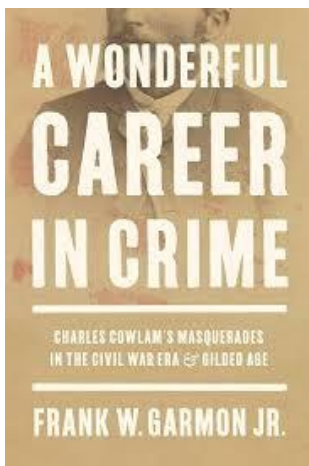


"USS Monitor – The Ship That Launched A Modern Navy" By T. Edward M. Miller USN

Bonus Book:
"Civil War Sketchbook"
by Harry L. Katz and Vincent Virga
(Coffee Table Book of the Month)



Williamsburg Civil War Round Table



<http://www.wcwr.org>

On September 17, 2024 - Frank Garmon will present:

"A Wonderful Career in Crime - Charles Cowlam's Masquerades in the Civil War Era and Gilded Age"