



James City Cavalry Picket Lines



January 2023 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, January 25th, 2023, 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

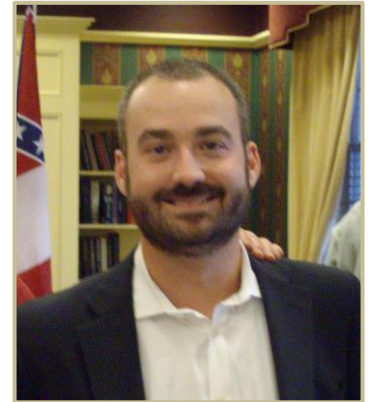
Non-camp members please contact Jeff Toalson (757) 220-0131 or troon24@cox.net to make a dinner reservation. Camp members will be contacted by the 'Call Team' for your reservation. Attendees without a reservation are welcome to attend the meeting but may not receive a dinner.

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

January Guest Speaker

Mr. Fred D.
Taylor
Lawyer and
Southern Patriot



***"The Point
Lookout Prison
Camp"***

Early in the war the Union built a 14,000-bed hospital complex on Point Lookout to treat wounded soldiers coming from the campaigns in Virginia. On August 1, 1863, a 40-acre site near the hospital, enclosed by a 15' tall wall, was opened as a prison camp. 30 acres for enlisted and 10 acres for officers. Over 65,000 prisoners spent time here. In mid-1864 the population was over 15,000 and at the end of the war over 28,000 prisoners were in custody. Only Elmira Prison was dreaded more than Point Lookout. Fred will share stories with us at our meeting on the treatment of our ancestors in this prison.

Fred is a compatriot of the Tom Smith Camp in Suffolk. He holds a B.A. in History from O.D.U. and earned his law degree at Mercer. When not practicing law, he is following his love of history. He has been published in both *Military Images* and *Civil War Navy Magazine*.

Camp Officers



| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Commander | Jeff Toalson troon24@cox.net |
| Adjutant | Dave Watson djwatson61@cox.net |
| Treasurer | Ken Parsons kparsons320@gmail.com |
| 1st Lt. Commander | Jerry White hfrog66@gmail.com |
| 2nd Lt. Commander | Steve White garrettsgrocery@gmail.com |
| Chaplain | George Corbett georgecorbett@cox.net |
| Aide de Camp | Jon Holland jonholland79@gmail.com |
| Archivist/Editor | Paul Huelskamp jccpicketlinesdistribution@gmail.com |
| Quartermaster | George Bridewell gbridewell@aol.com |
| Historian | Fred Boelt fwb@widomaker.com |

UDC Honey Basket Winner



Steve White and Lorraine Beasley were big winners in the UDC Mathews Chapter raffle for their annual nursing scholarship. We thank Marilyn Iglesias for joining us at the November meeting and it was indeed our pleasure to support their scholarship.

Commander's Comments

To open 2023 we welcome Compatriot Fred Taylor of the Tom Smith Camp. Fred will provide us with the 'naked truth' about conditions at the Point Lookout Prison Camp in Maryland. Nothing will be hidden. He will discuss the reduction of rations, at all prison camps, by Colonel William Hoffman the Union Commissary General of Prisons. We will learn about the contaminated drinking water that will lead to chronic diarrhea and dysentery. Confederate soldiers feared being sent to Point Lookout and when our evening is concluded we will understand those fears.

The 'naked truth' reminded me of a story related in *The Splendid and the Vile* by Eric Larson. It deals with Winston Churchill and Franklin Roosevelt meeting, in person, for the first time, at the White House in late December, 1941. Churchill stayed at the White House and it gave the two men the opportunity to get a close up look at each other while having private conversation. *On that first night Inspector Thompson, Churchill's bodyguard, was inspecting the bedroom when there was a knock at the door. Thompson answered and found President Roosevelt outside in his wheelchair, alone in the hall. Thompson opened the door and saw an odd expression come over the president's face as he looked past Thompson. Behind Thompson was a totally naked Churchill with a drink in one hand and a cigar in the other.*

The president prepared to wheel himself out but Churchill called out, "Come on in Franklin . . . We're quite alone." The president gave an odd shrug and wheeled himself in. "You see Mr. President," Churchill said, "I have nothing to hide."

Churchill proceeded to sling a towel over his shoulder and for the next hour walked around the room naked, sipping his drink, refilling the president's glass, smoking his cigar, and visiting with his new friend.

Join us for an evening with a 'fully clothed' Fred Taylor as he provides the 'naked truth' about the Point Lookout Prison Camp.

Jeff

The Splendid and the Vile – A Saga of Churchill, Family & Defiance During the Blitz, Eric Larson, 2020, New York, p.488.

Confederate Gravesites

(Contributed by Compatriot Fred Boelt)

After the James City Cavalry Camp 2095 was chartered in 2007, we began to think of ways to honor our ancestors who had supported the Confederate cause. We soon realized that a number of veterans were buried in both private and church cemeteries in James City County. Some of the graves had tombstones and others needed veterans' markers. The private cemeteries needed continual maintenance to keep the trees and underbrush from overtaking the sites. Under the leadership of 2nd Lt. Commander Steve White, we accepted the challenge and today, we care for a number of veterans' final resting places.

Around the same time, a group of members of the Tidewater Genealogical Society began research in preparation of two books about cemeteries in James City County. Shared information from this group aided in our locating some of the private cemeteries. Our first project was at the Peach Park cemetery located on Little Creek Dam Road just south of the intersection with Forge Road in Toano. Research indicated that Colonel James Harvey Allen had owned the little 18th century house still standing across the road and that he had been buried in the cemetery on that property. A conversation with a long-time resident led us to locate the one extant grave marker and the fact that more of the family was buried there. After contacting the present owner of the land, permission was granted for our camp to enhance and maintain the cemetery.

James Harvey Allen was born in James City County in 1829. He was the son of Benjamin Allen and his wife, Frances M. B. Coke. In the 1860 census, he was listed as a classical teacher living with his sister and brother-in-law, Daniel and Lucy Allen Jones on their farm down Forge Road on the Chickahominy River.

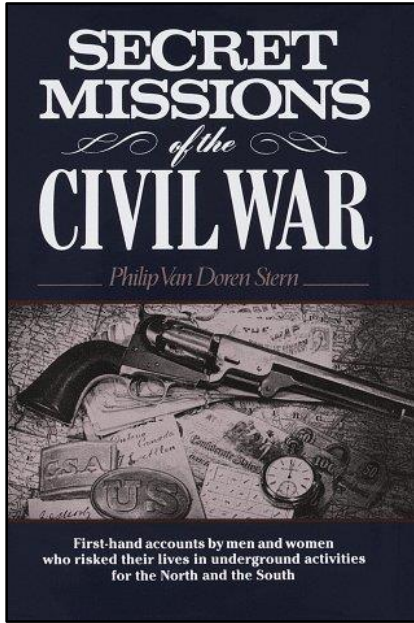
A year later, Allen began his service in the James City Cavalry. He enlisted in Williamsburg on June 14, 1861, and was elected captain. He saw extensive service throughout the war, was elected major in June 1864, and then elected lieutenant colonel in July. He was commanding the 5th Virginia Cavalry at New Bridge in February 1865. Allen was paroled and took the oath in Williamsburg at the end of April.

After the war, he continued to live in the Burnt Ordinary (Toano) section of the county and became Superintendent of Schools. In 1882, he purchased a portion of the Peach Park farm, was married in 1883, but divorced before his death. In 1896, Colonel Allen wrote a detailed article on the organization and service of the James City Cavalry and included a roster. He died at Peach Park on April 28, 1898, and was buried there among his relatives.

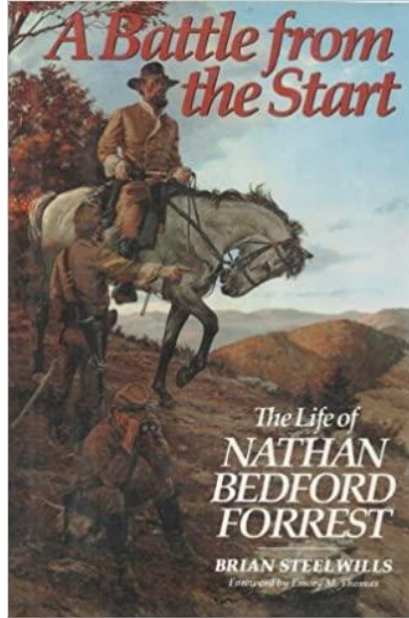
After extensive clean-up work, the camp ordered a veteran's marker for Colonel Allen's grave. While grubbing brush, the tombstone of his sister, Lucy Allen Jones, was found buried in the ground. This was re-erected approximately where it was found. Years ago, the camp assisted with installing a taller flag pole at Fort Magruder. We brought the shorter flag pole to this cemetery and fly the First National flag there today. A mailbox holding brochures about the cemetery was added and later, two benches honoring David Ware, Jr. (early camp commander) and Pete Dozier (land owner) were installed. The two oaks in the rear corners of the cemetery were grown from acorns harvested from the Lee tree at Fairview Plantation (more on this next month). Numerous other trees and shrubs have been planted to establish a perimeter around the cemetery.

Based on the guest register left in the mailbox, numerous visitors stop and rest at this spot. They are appreciative and complimentary of our work. If you have not been to this site, stop by, or better still, when we have our annual cemetery work sessions this winter, join us as we serve in their memory.

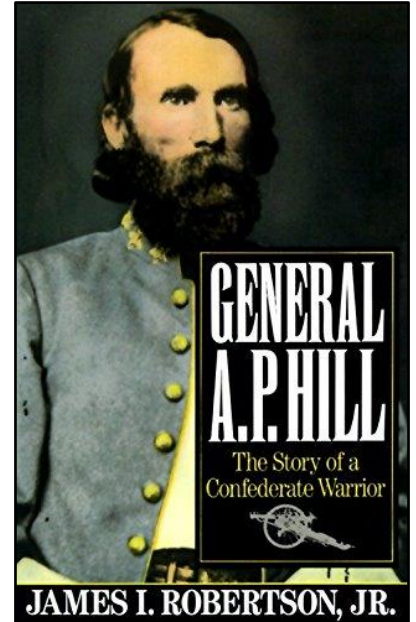
January Book Raffle



"Secret Missions of the Civil War"
by Philip Van Doren Stern

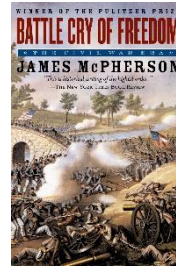


"A Battle from the Start: The Life of Nathan Bedford Forrest"
by Brian Steel Wills
(first edition, not signed)



"General A.P. Hill: The Story of a Confederate Warrior"
by James I. Robertson Jr. (signed, 1st edition)

Bonus Book:
"Battle Cry of Freedom"
By James M. McPherson



Williamsburg Civil War Round Table



<http://www.wcwrt.org>

On January 24th, 2023 - Drew Gruber will present:

"The Siege of Yorktown"