



James City Cavalry Picket Lines



March 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, March 22th, 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

March Guest Speaker

W Lee Pelton

"Don't call them the 8th!"



The 8th Texas Cavalry Regiment, popularly known as Terry's Texas Rangers, was a regiment of Texas volunteers assembled by Colonel Benjamin Franklin Terry in 1861. Though lesser known than the Texas Brigade, the 8th Texas Cavalry distinguished itself at several battles during the American Civil War. In four years of service, Terry's Texas Rangers fought in over 275 engagements in seven states. The regiment earned a reputation that ranked it among the most effective mounted regiments in the Western Theater. Of the more than 1,700 men who were mustered in, less than 300 returned home. *See page 3 for a photo the regimental flag of the TTR.*

W Lee Pelton was born and raised in El Paso, Texas. He is currently a member of SCV Princess Anne Camp 484 and a reenactor in the Civil War units 'Norfolk Light Artillery Blues' and 'Charlotte Battery'.

Camp Journal for Last Muster

Meeting:

Held February 22nd at 6:30 PM at Colonial Heritage Club House,
James City County, Va., **34** Attendees

Welcome given by Cmdr. Jeff Toalson

Pledge & Salute to the Flags led by Aide de Camp Jon Holland

Blessing:

Given by Chaplain George Corbett

Break for Supper

The SCV Charge read by Quartermaster George Bridewell

Commander Comments by Cmdr. Jeff Toalson

Program:

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

Mr. Tim Smith

Mr. Smith presented "*York County's Brave Men of the Civil War*", a very interesting talk on a selection of various lower peninsula soldiers, their photographs, and their stories.



Mr. Smith and 1st Lt. Cmdr. Perry

Cemetery Report – 2nd Lt. Cmdr. White

Fort Magruder is complete until our final weed trimming on the battlements before the U.D.C. Battle of Williamsburg Anniversary.

We have installed two Southern Crosses of Honor: a cross was installed at the grave of Private Cary Wilkinson, Co. H – 5th Virginia Cavalry, at Sunnyside Cemetery and a cross was installed at the grave of Private Francis Ward Hammond, Co. H – 5th Virginia Cavalry, at Olive Branch Cemetery.

At Peach Park Cemetery the bricks around the front of the Dozier Memorial Bench have been reset with fresh sand. Some repair work is still needed on the back side. We also trimmed limbs on the gum tree and several pines.

Bad weather on our Saturdays has hampered our cemetery clean-up process. I hope to schedule Cowles-Spencer in the near future to complete our spring work.

Induction of New Members

Joseph Wert and Derick Hayman



Cmdr. Toalson, Compatriots Wert & Hayman, 1st Lt. Cmdr. Perry and Treasurer Parsons

Committee Reports and Announcements:

Old & New Business

- Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Parsons
- WCWRT Report – Compatriot Miller



2005 Founding Members Honored: 2nd Lt. White, Historian Boelt, Compatriot Mountcastle and Treasurer Parsons
Not Pictured: Robert Glaser, Bert Geddy and Bill Harrison

Book Raffle

Proceeds of \$103 were donated to the Camp Treasury for the raffle of the three donations.

Benediction

Given by Chaplain George Corbett

Camp Officers



Commander	Jeff Toalson troon24@cox.net
Adjutant	Dave Watson djwatson61@cox.net
Treasurer	Ken Parsons kparsons320@gmail.com
1st Lt. Commander	Ron Perry perryra@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

Terry's Texas Rangers Flag



Battle flag of 8th Texas Cavalry
Regiment

Commander's Comments

Tim Smith provided a very interesting historical photographic journey into the life of almost 30 York County soldiers and sailors in his talk at our February meeting. His work has preserved an important window into history on the lower Peninsula. Thanks Tim.

Our annual report documenting our Camp achievements in 2022 has been forwarded to the Virginia Division. At the State S.C.V. Convention in April we will be awarded another Outstanding Camp streamer. It is an award for our collective work as a Camp and we should all be very proud of our efforts in honor of our ancestors.

April 22 is the Virginia S.C.V. Convention in Blackstone, Virginia. It will be held at the historic Inn at Blackstone. We have reserved spaces for four Cavalrymen. If you are interested in joining us for the day contact me at once. Reservations are on a first come, first reserved basis. Your room, registration and banquet meal will be paid for by the Camp. Departure will be about 0600 on April 22 and we will come home at a more leisurely time on Sunday morning. (go to www.innatblackstone.com to see resort details, photos, and other information.) The Convention meeting is Saturday morning. There is a tour of the battlefield at Sailor's Creek scheduled for Saturday afternoon. The banquet is Saturday night.

May 7 (Sunday) at 4:00 has been chosen for the annual Anniversary of the Battle of Williamsburg Ceremony at Fort Magruder hosted by the U.D.C. The ladies of the Williamsburg Chapter will be forwarding more information as we get closer.

We serve in their memory.

Jeff Toalson

Confederate Gravesites

(Contributed by Compatriot Fred Boelt)

We continue here with our “refresher course” on the local cemeteries where Confederate veterans are buried. In depth articles have been written about all these veterans and are in our newsletters archived on our website. Since we began the project fifteen years ago, we have gained many new compatriots, and hopefully, these articles will be helpful as work days are announced and calls for help go out.

The work really began in the Forge Road area, but we soon branched out. One of the other early cemeteries that we tackled was the Cowles- Spencer family cemetery located adjacent to/behind the recreational park in Forest Glen off Centerville Road. Two veterans are buried here.

David Warren Spencer, son of Upton and Catharine Spencer, was born in 1842, at his father’s farm on the southwest side of Jolly Pond Road, near the intersection with Bush Neck Road. These Spencers were descendants of the Spencer family that operated the ordinary near the intersection of Centerville and Longhill Roads, where a Revolutionary War battle was fought.

David Spencer enlisted in Co. I, 3rd Virginia Cavalry, in Williamsburg on June 4, 1861. A year later, he transferred to Co. H, 5th Virginia Cavalry, and served with the cavalry until he surrendered at Appomattox and was paroled in Richmond on April 27, 1865.

David Spencer returned to James City, and on July 13, 1865, he married Lena Camilla Ware, sister of Edmond Macon Ware (buried at Sunnyside). They had four daughters, but Lena and three of the daughters predeceased Spencer who died on July 31, 1915. He was buried among other Spencer relatives in the little cemetery now located in Forest Glen.

The other veteran buried here is David Spencer Cowles. Born on April 27, 1819, he was the son of Thomas and Caroline Spencer Cowles. David and his wife, Maria Childrey, had nine children born between 1843 and 1860. David Cowles enlisted in Co. I, 3rd Virginia Cavalry, in Williamsburg, on June 24, 1861. He later transferred to Co. H, 5th Virginia Cavalry, and his record ended after a hospital stay in Richmond in 1862. Being older than the average soldier may have had something to do with his leaving the service. David Spencer Cowles died on June 2, 1894, and was buried among his ancestors.

A little later in our quest for Confederate graves, we discovered two in the Lightfoot/ Henley family cemetery at Hill Pleasant farm. Daniel Hankins had married Mary Lightfoot, and among their children, Thaddeus W. Hankins was born about 1828. He enlisted in the 3rd Virginia Cavalry in Williamsburg on June 24, 1861, and was stationed on the lower peninsula for the summer. Tragically, he succumbed to disease on September 1861, and was buried among family at Hill Pleasant.

Daniel and Mary Hankins daughter, Mary married Logan Lukhard who enlisted in Company C, 32nd Virginia Infantry, on May 16, 1861. His service records indicate that he was active throughout the war. He returned to James City after the war and worked as a wheelwright until his death on February 23, 1909. He was buried among his wife’s family at Hill Pleasant.

Brian Lukhard, who descends from Logan’s brother William, found our article on our website about the Hill Pleasant burials and contacted us about erecting a tombstone there. Brian arranged to have a veteran’s stone sent to us and our camp installed it at the grave. Brian and his wife visited us in December, and we were able to take him to the burial site.

We honor the veterans by maintaining their graves for their descendants to visit!

New Stone at Ft. Magruder

The first week of January saw the installation of a new stone marking the re-erection and rededication of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument. The stone honors not only UDC Chapter 673 but also SCV Camp 2095. A very nice gesture by the ladies of the Williamsburg UDC.

RE-ERECTED ON APRIL 7, 2021, AND
REDEDICATED ON MAY 1, 2022, BY
THE COMBINED EFFORTS OF THE
WILLIAMSBURG CHAPTER 637,
UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE
CONFEDERACY, AND THE JAMES
CITY CAVALRY, CAMP #2095, SONS
OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS



Williamsburg Battlefield Assn. – Walk of Valor

Saturday, March 25 @ 9 AM-1:30 PM - WALK of VALOR



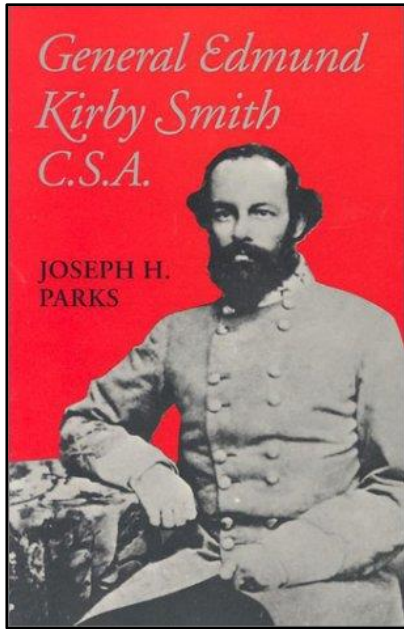
In recognition of March 25 as National Medal of Honor Day, the Williamsburg Battlefield Association will host **WALK of VALOR**. Storyboards and character interpretations will present the stories of Union soldiers awarded the Medal of Honor for their actions during the May 5, 1862 Battle of Williamsburg, contraband who impacted the battle and emancipation movement, and Confederate soldiers who acted above and beyond the normal call of duty.

Listen to Sgt. John N. Coyne of the 70th NY Infantry describe his harrowing encounter with a Confederate flag bearer and the hand-to-hand combat that ensued. Meet Lettie, who courageously ran away from enslavement on the Custis Farm and became a washer woman with the Union Army despite fears and hopes for the future. Encounter Dr. Edmund S. Pendleton, a sergeant of remarkable skill and bravery in the 4th VA Cavalry who carried a secret in his pocket throughout the war.

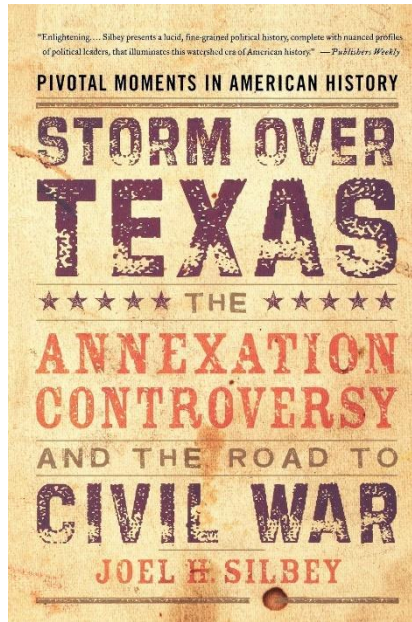
Manned exhibits will also inform guests of the significant Williamsburg battlefield tracts saved from development by the American Battlefield Trust and what happened on them during the fighting.

Location and Accommodations: Ft. Magruder Hotel & Conference Center, 6945 Pocahontas Trail, Williamsburg, VA 23185

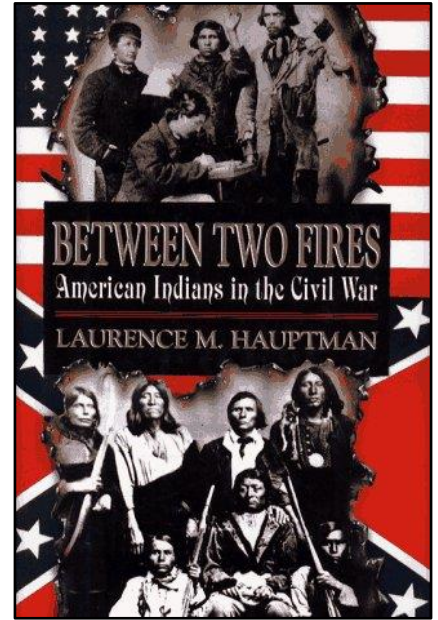
March Book Raffle



"General Edmund Kirby Smith, C.S.A."
by Joseph Howard Parks



"Storm over Texas: The Annexation Controversy and the Road to Civil War"
By Joel H. Silbey



"Between Two Fires: American Indians in the Civil War"
by Laurence M. Hauptman

Plus, a bonus book to be determined.

Williamsburg Civil War Round Table



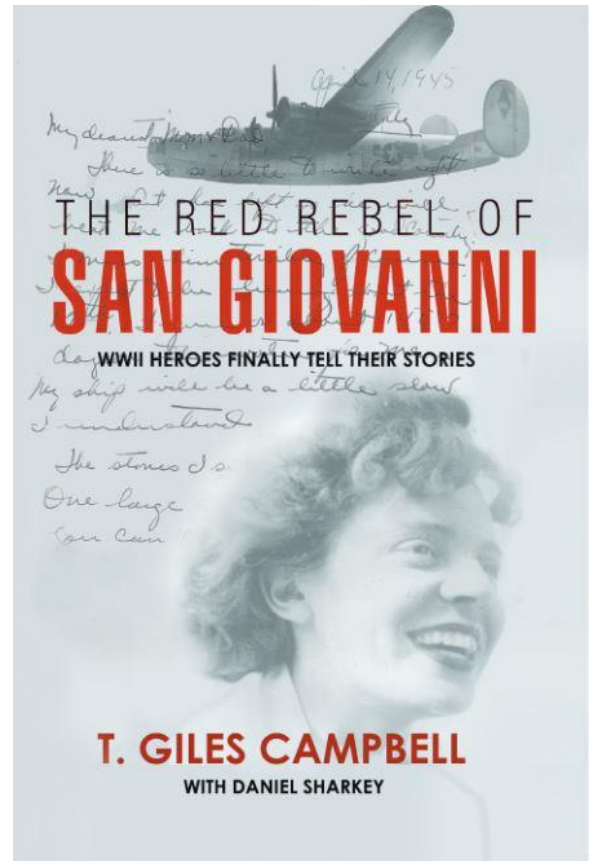
<http://www.wcwr.org>

On March 28th, 2023 - Michael Moore
will present:

"John Taylor Wood and the Rebel Horse Marine"

HOT OFF THE PRESS from Tom Campbell

Four Virginians who descend from a collection of grandfathers and great uncles who wore the butternut and gray plus the son of a Norwegian immigrant butcher and sausage maker in Minnesota enlist to fight the Axis powers. Three are in the Army, one is in the 454th Bomb Group, and one is in the Red Cross. Their stories all merge in Italy in 1943 and 1944. One will be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, one becomes the most decorated soldier in the 34th Infantry Division and is awarded the Italian Legion of Valor (their equivalent of the Medal of Honor) and lastly, Harriet - The Red Rebel of San Giovanni, serving with the Red Cross at the airbase in Italy that is home to the 454th Bomb Group, is the glue that brings these five stories together.



Price: 29.91 + 7% tax of \$2.09 = \$32.00 each.
ISBN 978-1-63985-135-5

Signed copies via media mail add \$5 for first book, each additional book \$1.50.

Mail orders to Tom Campbell, 47 Whittaker's Mill, Williamsburg, VA 23185
Orders available on-line from Amazon and Barnes & Noble.

Questions: Email Tom at tcampbell13@cox.net and use "Red Rebel" subject line.