



James City Cavalry Picket Lines



October 2022 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, October 26th, 2022, 6:30 pm
Colonial Heritage Club House
www.colonialheritageclub.com/find-us
6500 Arthur Hills Drive
Williamsburg, VA 23188

Special Notice

The November camp meeting will be one week early, November 16, since the 24th is Thanksgiving Day.

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.

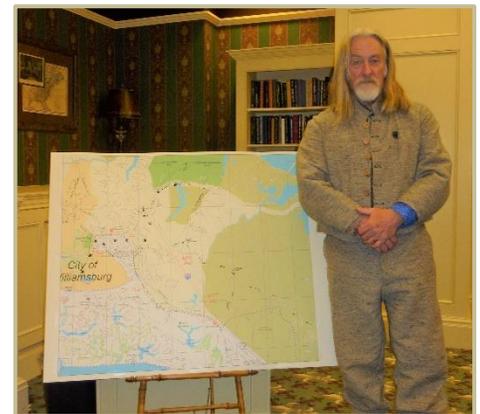
JCC Web Site: <http://www.jamescitycavalry.org>

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

October Guest Speaker

Compatriot
Robert Glaser

*“The
Williamsburg
Line”*



Rob Glaser is a native Virginian whose ancestors have lived in this area for well over two centuries. He is an Army veteran whose passion has been history, particularly of the Yorktown and Williamsburg area. He worked for a private company conducting tours of this area for fifteen years. For the past 25 years Rob led tours that focused on the history of the area including a ghost tour. He has been a re-enactor for over 25 years in several Virginia companies and presently in company F of the Norfolk Rifle Grays. He is a charter member of the James City Cavalry Camp 2095.

Rob's presentation will be on the design and layout of the Williamsburg Defensive Line and the battle that took place there on May 4th and 5th in 1862. He has prepared several detailed maps of those battles and has some maps and handouts as visual aids. His presentation to this camp several years ago was a testament to his knowledge of the Battle of Williamsburg. He is intimately familiar with the terrain and the events that occurred there. It is particularly relevant to us as the conflict basically occurred in our back yard.

Camp Journal for Last Muster

Meeting:

Held September 28th at 6:30 PM at Colonial Heritage Club House,
James City County., Va., 29 Attendees

Welcome given by Cmdr. Jeff Toalson

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

Blessing:

Given by Senior Chaplain George Corbett

Break for Supper

The SCV Charge read by Quartermaster George Bridewell

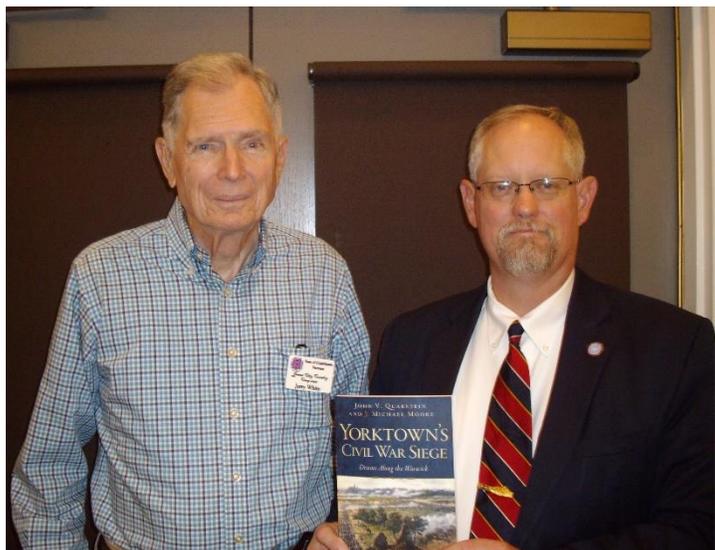
Comments by Cmdr. Jeff Toalson

Program:

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

J. Michael Moore

Mr. Moore presented "*The Yorktown-Warwick Line, Action on the Lower Peninsula in 1862*", a lively discussion covering the civilians, commanders, and soldiers who participated in the Siege of the Warwick-Yorktown line.



1st Lt. Cmdr. White and Mr. Moore

Committee Reports and Announcements:

Old & New Business

- Cemetery Report – 2nd Lt. Cmdr. White
- Treasurer / Adjutant Report – Treasurer Parsons
- WCWRT Report – FOC Miller

Virginia Division Life Certificate Award

Compatriot Dennis Dasher



Treasurer Parsons and Compatriot Dasher

Book Raffle

Proceeds of \$61 were donated to the Camp Treasury for the raffle of the four donations.

Benediction

Given by Senior Chaplain George Corbett

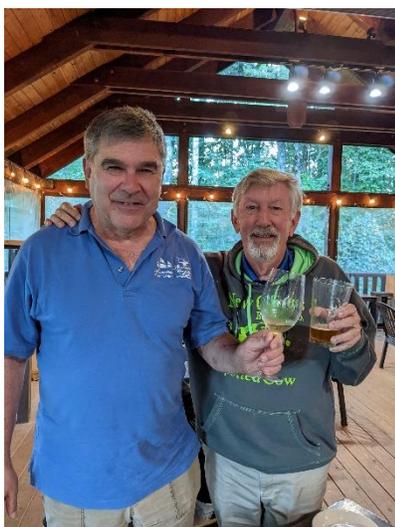
Camp Officers



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

Picket Lines Planning Session

Editor Paul Huelskamp and Commander Jeff Toalson met for a lengthy planning meeting in Sapphire, North Carolina, the 3rd week of September. Much was accomplished.



Editor Huelskamp & Cmdr.
Toalson

Commander's Comments

We had a wonderful September meeting with J. Michael Moore regaling us with stories of the 1862 Peninsula Campaign around Yorktown and the Warwick Line. The telling of Fitz John Porter's balloon flight never ceases to be a funny story. It is always a pleasure to have Michael as our guest.

1st Lt. Commander Jerry White has scheduled Compatriot Robert Glaser to give his talk on the battle of Williamsburg at the October meeting. This action followed the action on the Warwick Line and seemed like a logical next subject. Rob last gave this talk to the Camp some 10 years ago.

We had three new prospective members at our September meeting and we hope to have all of them as new members in the near future.

Compatriots Lang Shelton and Tom Campbell joined me in manning the Virginia Division SCV Booth at the Virginia State Fair. Despite rain from Tropical Storm Ian we had a successful day and met with many nice people.

Remember, you serve in the memory of your ancestors.

Jeff Toalson



Confederate Gravesites

(Contributed by Compatriot Fred Boelt)

Over the years, we have concentrated on the lives of Confederate veterans who were buried in James City County and the city of Williamsburg. However, there are also men who served from our area but were buried in other places. One such man is Nicholas B. Corson. He was born on January 16, 1834, on Staten Island, Richmond County, New York. Nicholas was the son of John Corson, a boatman from that area. By the 1850 census, Nicholas was also working as a boatman with his father.

For reasons now unknown, Nicholas Corson moved to Virginia a few years later, and about 1855/56, he married Rosa N. Pitts, a native of King and Queen County, Virginia. She was a daughter of Simeon Pitts and Mary Frances Shackelford. The Pitts family and two of their sons, Allen and Simeon B., were covered in a *Picket Lines* article in May 2011. By 1860, Nicholas was working as an oysterman, undoubtedly on his father-in-law's schooner, captained by his brother-in-law, Simeon B. Pitts. The Corsons were living on present day Riverview Road adjacent to the Pitts family and they had three young children by this time.

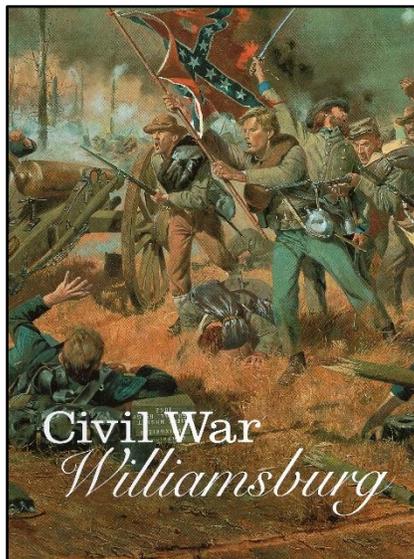
When war was declared, Nicholas Corson enlisted in Burnt Ordinary on May 16, 1861, and mustered in later in Williamsburg. Initially, he was a private in Company H, 32nd Virginia Infantry through August of that year. By September, he was in Company B, (James City Artillery) 1st Virginia Artillery. He was present on all rolls from then through 1864. There were only two additional notes in his record. He was detailed to cut hay on June 27, 1864, by Colonel Maury, and there was a receipt for clothing issued on October 20, 1864.

From Chaffin's Bluff, on November 11, 1864, Lt. W. S. Slater, company commander, sent a note to headquarters: "I beg leave to apply for a 15 day furlough for Pvt. Nicholas B. Corson whose family [was] reliably represented to me to be suffering sickness besides in a suffering condition for the necessities of life. Pvt. Corson was a man who by his own labor amply supplied the requirements of a family before the war being engaged in the oyster business. He not only remained with us, but has borne his part truly faithfully for nearly four years. I hope in your judgement the times may warrant the granting of this indulgence."

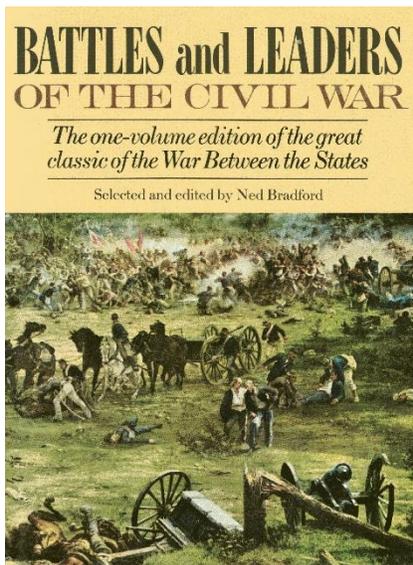
Ultimately, a seven-day furlough was granted. Surely, these circumstances were not unique and may very well have described many fractured households during the war years. Nicholas Corson's record stopped after the request for the furlough. We do know that he deserted and entered Federal lines on January 16, 1865, perhaps due to his family's needs. He took the oath and was sent to Yorktown, Virginia. He was described as 5' 7 1/2" tall, grey eyes, black hair, and a resident of James City County.

Somehow, the Corson family eluded the census taker in 1870. By 1880, they were living in Chuckatuck, Nansemond County, Virginia. Nicholas was again listed as an oysterman and one son, Eugene was following his father's trade. In the 1900 census, Rosa Corson stated that she had nine children with seven living at that point. That year, Nicholas was farming and another son, John, was oystering. Rosa Corson died on January 10, 1909. In 1910, Nicholas was living in the household of a daughter-in-law and grandson in Chuckatuck. He died on March 16, 1917, and was buried beside his wife in Mount Zion Cemetery in Chuckatuck. Additional family members were also buried there. While we may never know why Nicholas Corson moved to Virginia, he certainly took up the Southern cause and served it well.

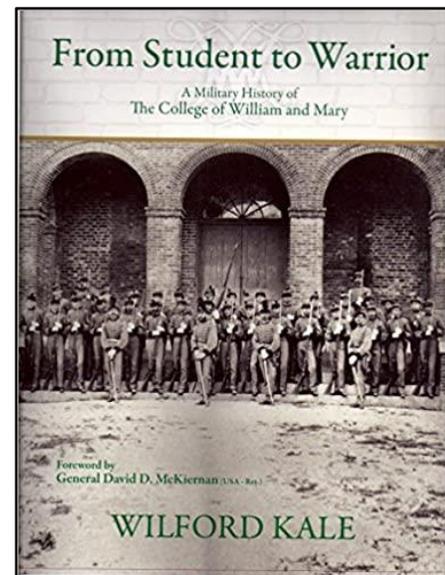
October Book Raffle



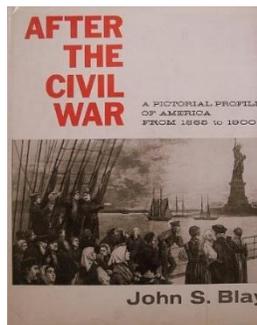
“Civil War Williamsburg”
By Carson O. Hudson, Jr.



“Battles And Leaders Of The Civil War”
By Ned Bradford



“From Student To Warrior”
By Wilford Kale



Bonus Book:
“After the Civil War”
By John S. Blay

Williamsburg Civil War Round Table



<http://www.wcwrt.org>

On October 25th, 2022 – Carson Hudson
will present:

“Custer at Williamsburg”