



**November 2008**

**Last Meeting:** Our last meeting had 23 in attendance. Our Program was: *Virginia Civil War Ghosts* by presented by Mrs. Beth Brown who is Founder of the Virginia Society of Paranormal Education and Research. She presented a short film and talk on some of her findings at local Civil War battlefields and sites.

**Next Meeting:** Our next meeting will be at Hog Wild Barbeque in Toano on November 26 at 7pm. Our speaker will be Commander Ken Chandler of the Robert E. Lee Camp 1589. Come and bring a guest.

### **DRAWINGS!**

**Compatriots** - At the next several meetings we will continue the big raffle for the painting of Stonewall Jackson which was kindly donated to the camp by Associate Peter Jelinek. Peter is a local artist. His studio is located in The Village Shops at Kingsmill. Peter has graciously offered to have the painting framed at no cost to the winner. This will in fact be a **DOUBLE DRAWING**. Tickets will cost \$2 each or 3 for \$5. We will hold a drawing each month for a smaller prize . . . probably a book on the war . . . the winning ticket will be dropped back in "Stonewall's Jug" . . . and the process will be repeated each month until we hold our actual Stonewall drawing. So it is WIN - WIN. You can win monthly, your tickets get put back in the jug, and of course you have who knows how many chances to win the grand prize. This painting is of the finest artistic quality and would be a treasure to anyone that holds our Confederate Generals in the highest esteem.

**Compatriot Jeff Toalson** will offer copies of *No Soap, No Pay, Diarrhea, Dysentery & Desertion* for sale at our camp meeting in November and December as we approach the holidays. Take a look at your holiday shopping list. What better Christmas present than stories of our Confederate ancestors? Jeff will donate \$5 from each \$30 sale to the James City Cavalry general fund.

**Peach Park Cemetery:** Compatriots Ken Parsons and Bob Tuck recently prepared the ground and re-seeded the area at the cemetery. We look forward to next spring when their efforts are evident with the new grass growing. After many years not receiving needed attention, the cemetery now displays an honorable and respectful resting place for our Confederate Ancestor.

The Camp has ordered three (3) oak plantings that were raised from the Lee Tree that had to be taken down last year. Pete Dozier, who owns the property, is reimbursing the Camp for these trees. Since they have a special heritage, it makes Peach Park a little more special place. We will get the entire story of the Lee Tree published for you in the next newsletter.

The sign is being re-lettered and should be back in place next week.

### **The Virginia Division Convention April 24, 2009**

Plans are going forward for our Camp to hold the Virginia Division 2009 Convention here in Williamsburg.

The Convention will begin with a reception in the Stuart room at The Fort Magruder Inn on York Street Friday evening (4/24), hosted by our Div. CDR John Sawyer. All SCV Compatriots are welcome to attend this event and all the meetings.

The official meeting will begin at 8:00 am on Saturday morning (4/25) and continue throughout the day. There will be a supper Saturday night, probably outside with a special event taking place in the redoubt behind the Inn. Again, all are welcome to attend. I will inform you of the cost later.

The following compatriots are helping with the arrangements: Jeff Toalson is helping plan the convention; Fred Satterwhite (and Jeff) attended the Virginia Division Meeting in September and are advising with planning and cost. Bob Tuck and Jamie Berryhill are helping with re-enactors for the color guard and special events. Fred Boelt is also helping with the convention planning.

I will keep you informed as we develop this special occasion.

Dues:

Annual dues have been collected and new member have brought our membership up to a total of 31 members as of Nov. 15th. We should be working towards 31 more by this time next year. There are lots more descendents out there who need to join; it's up to YOU to bring'em in!

**Ken Parsons, Adjutant**

## JAMES CITY COUNTY CONFEDERATE GRAVESITES

The Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center on Barnes Road is located on a tract of land that was owned by the Boswell family. There is evidence that at least one Confederate veteran was buried on that farm, though the actual grave has not been found. A cemetery has been located in a wooded area that is believed to have been a slave cemetery that was still being used by black families for burials as late as the 1940s.

Thomas Boswell purchased 575 acres of land from E. Taylor in 1837. After Boswell's death in 1838, one half of the tract passed to his widow and the other half passed to his son, Thomas Jr. By 1842, the son was charged with the entire tract on the tax records. Thomas Jr. and his wife, Frances Elizabeth Richardson, had three children, William Thomas, born 1839; Walter H., born 1840; and Mary Ozella, born 1842.

Both sons enlisted in the Barhamsville Greys, later Company B, 53rd Virginia Infantry at West Point on May 11, 1861. Walter H. Boswell was sick in camp on April 30, 1862 and was elected sergeant on May 5th before being killed in action during the Battle of Malvern Hill on July 1, 1862. William Thomas Boswell served as sergeant and later 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> lieutenant before resigning from the 53<sup>rd</sup> Infantry on October 30, 1862. After that, he served in Company W, 3<sup>rd</sup> Virginia Cavalry, and later enlisted in Company H, 5<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry in King William on February 2, 1863. He was captured, exchanged and sick in a Richmond hospital in 1863, and absent, on sick leave at home in January and February 1864 with no further record. He was listed as wounded in action on the 5<sup>th</sup> Virginia roster in 1896.

In Richmond on November 23, 1862, William Thomas Boswell married Judith W. Hockaday from New Kent County and they had six children between 1864 and 1872. William's father had died in 1859 and after the war, his land was divided among his widow and their two living children. William's portion included the "mansion house," and it is believed that this is where William died on January 28, 1874, apparently never having recovered from wounds received during the war.

After her husband's death, Judith Boswell sold this farm and purchased a portion of her Hockaday family's land in New Kent (Holly Forks area). Two of their children died in September and October 1877 in New Kent. Their mother recorded their deaths in the Boswell Family Bible and wrote, "Both of these were bright & promising children they died in ten days of each other & are buried in the Family burying ground on the Boswell Farm." It seems probable that the children were buried with their father and perhaps grandparents. It is possible that none of these graves ever had tombstones given the hard economic times here after the war. It is also possible that these graves were moved later, but no record of that has been found. So, until proven otherwise, we believe that one Confederate veteran is buried on the land now owned by the Williamsburg Christian retreat center.

We continue our journey through time with Fred Boelt's 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 November 1861:

Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup>...That portion of the fifth La. Regiment stationed in Williamsburg went below today. Five new regiments landed in Yorktown this week. Our forces here now are estimated at between 35 and 40 thousand.

Tuesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>...Four troopers dined with us today. They were in search of stray horses.

Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup>...Three soldiers stay with us tonight from the 10<sup>th</sup> Georgia Regiment. Fannie sold a ham weighing 10 lbs. to one of the soldiers this morning for \$2.50.

Tuesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>...Mr. Hinton of the Mecklenburg Cavalry and his father stay with us tonight.

Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup>...The day having been appointed by the president as a day of fasting and humiliation, I abstained from breakfast and proceeded at the usual hour to the church, but owing to the inclement weather, we had no meeting.

Tuesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>...Two of the cavalry called on me for my wagon to haul corn from Curtis' landing – could not hire it.

Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>...Moses returned home from the fortification on Mulberry Point this morning.

Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>...Went to [Lebanon] church this morning. Had only seven persons present, including the preacher. The people seem as if they had no use for religion in these times of war and military commotion.

Monday, October 25<sup>th</sup>...Papers report fighting at Fort Pickens.

Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup>...Two soldiers from the Tenth Georgia Regiment took supper with us and went down to the wharf. They are on their way home on a furlough of 25 days. *To be continued.*

Compatriots of James City Cavalry would like to extend our condolences to Associate Peter Jelinek on the loss of his brother.

In an effort to help save on the cost of the newsletter, you can now have it e-mailed to you in an adobe format. E-mail 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander Don Woolridge at [dsw317@earthlink.net](mailto:dsw317@earthlink.net) to be added to this list."

In Lynchburg, Virginia, there is a monument stairway that honors the Veterans of all wars. An inscription there reads:

"I stood up, I showed up, I stepped forward, I raised my right hand, I stood in the gap, I walked in the fire, I did not dodge, I did not evade.

Consequently, I have nothing to prove, no one to convince.

Those who matter already know. Those who don't, never will."

Author unknown

### **Thought for the Month**

During this time of Thanksgiving and spending time with family let us not forget the brave Confederate Soldiers that stood the picket lines in November 1864 around Petersburg. These brave, hungry, barely clad men stood brave and tall in the last defenses of the Confederacy. Remember them in your Thanksgiving thoughts and prayers and that their gallant efforts for the Cause are never forgotten.

Don Woolridge, First Lt. Commander





## CAMP JOURNAL

October 22, 2008

- Meeting held 7:00 PM at Hog Wild, James City County, VA
  - 23 attendees
- Welcome given by Commander David Ware
- Invocation given by Chaplain Bill Blizzard
- Salute to the flags
  - US flag pledge, Virginia flag salute, CS flag salute by the group
- The Charge was read by Compatriot Harold Beimler
- Recognition of guests
- Announcements:
  - Camp name tags can be obtained for \$8 from Adjutant Ken Parsons
  - Monthly donations for Camp book tickets will go back into the hat for a later draw on the painting of Stonewall Jackson.
  - New member Jerry White introduced
  - Compatriot Jeff Toalson thanked all who participated in proof reading his next book which should be back from the printer early Spring 2009
- Upcoming events:
  - Oct 31-Nov 2, Locust Grove Plantation at Walkerton, VA reenactment
  - Nov. 22-23, Richmond, Civil War Show, annual event at the Richmond, Va., International Raceway. Hundreds of tables of Civil War items for sale. Admission fee. 804-737-5827
  - December 7, Mechanicville Christmas parade, several Confederate units and SCV Camps will be participating in the parade
  - Dec 13-14, "Christmas in the Field" reenactment at Isle of Wight Fair Grounds
- September minutes approved as published in "*Picket Lines*"
- Adjutant/Treasurer's Report presented; \$1262.00 paid out for dues. Present balance \$1307.72
  - Camp now at 27 paid up members
- Committee Reports:
  - None
- Old Business:
  - Penniman Road Park (*Ft Magruder*) caretaker status takeover by Camp from War Memorial Museum still in progress
  - Divisional Convention sponsorship by Camp still being studied
  - Camp participation at SCV booth at State Fair was a success
- New Business:
  - Voted to hold December meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> of December

- Camp donations collected by Compatriot Jeff Toalson, totaled \$47
- Program: *Virginia Civil War Ghosts* by presented by Mrs. Beth Brown
  - Founder of Virginia Society of Paranormal Education and Research
  - Presented short film and talk on some of her findings at Civil War battlefields and sites
    - Orb: Backscatter broadly interpreted as a highly variable range of paranormal phenomenon without verifiable causation — including as otherwise invisible spirits, auras, angels, ghosts, energy fields, psychoenergetic artifacts, energy balls.
    - EVP: Electronic Voice Phenomena is an established method used for capturing spirit voices
- Next Meeting: November 26, 2008 @ 7:00 P.M. @ Hog Wild
- Benediction given by Chaplain Blizzard
- Adjourned @ 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

*Robert H. Tuck*

## General James Longstreet Camp # 1247, SCV

Christmas Banquet/Ladies Night  
Tuesday December 9, 2008  
Westwood Club  
6200 West Club Lane  
Richmond, VA 23226

Dress:

Gentlemen: Coat and necktie  
Ladies: Appropriate attire

Social hour                      6:00 PM              Cash bar

Dinner                              7:00 PM

Program                            8:00 PM              William A. Young, Jr. portraying  
George Williamson Finley, 56<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry

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Reservation Form must be ***received*** by ***December 3, 2008***

Compatriot's name \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. # \_\_\_\_\_

Guest's name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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We wish to order the following entrees. (Indicate number)

- (    ) Chicken Virginia (Chicken breast stuffed with country ham and herb cheese)
- (    ) Roast prime rib of beef

Dinners include house salad, chef's choice of vegetable and accompaniment, freshly baked rolls and butter, coffee, tea, and chef's dessert.

Price \$ 39.00 per person. Enclosed is check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ dinners.

Please mail to Walter Tucker, 2524 Hawkesbury Court, Richmond, VA 23233-2426  
or bring to the November 18 meeting.