



James City Cavalry Picket Lines



August 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, August 24th, 2022, 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.

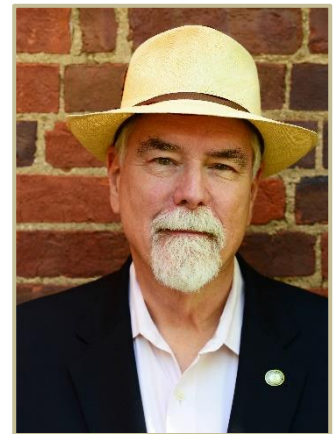
JCC Web Site: <http://www.jamescitycavalry.org>

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

August Guest Speaker

David Goetz
Tour Guide and
Historian

*“Mosby and
the Lincoln
Conspiracies”*



John Singleton Mosby rose from private to full colonel in the Confederate Army during the four years of war. After serving as a scout for General Stuart, he was given his own command in 1863 which covered several counties east of the Lower Shenandoah Valley which became known as Mosby's Confederacy as he imitated his childhood hero Francis Marion who tormented British forces. Frequently engaging federal troops several times their number, Mosby's men became the best armed and equipped unit in the Confederate army as they kept the equipment they captured from federal forces. Our speaker will explain Mosby's strategy including the placement of a team of saboteurs of Mosby's Rangers to blow up the White House with Lincoln and his cabinet in it in April 1865.

David Goetz is the owner of **Mosby's Confederacy Tours** and as such, leads tours in Fauquier, Loudoun, and Clarke counties (Mosby's Confederacy). He recently published his second non-fiction book entitled, **Ever the Gray Ghost: Colonel John Singleton Mosby and the Lincoln Conspiracies**. Mr. Goetz is a past commander of the Black Horse Camp #780 in Fauquier County and is a member of the Fauquier Historical Society board of directors. His professional background is in public relations, sales and marketing, primarily with non-profit organizations. He has a BA in English from Bellarmine University in Louisville, KY and an MS in Community Development from the University of Louisville. An Army veteran, he resides in Culpeper County, Virginia. He has a new book for sale entitled "Hell is Being a Republican in Virginia: The Postwar Relationship Between Mosby and Grant" is \$25.

Camp Journal for Last Muster

Meeting:

Held July 27th at 6:30 PM at Colonial Heritage Club House,
James City County, Va., **33** Attendees

Welcome given by Cmdr. Jeff Toalson

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

Blessing:

Given by Bonnie Mittelmaier of the UDC

Break for Supper

The SCV Charge read by Compatriot Jim O'Donnell

Comments by Cmdr. Jeff Toalson

Program:

Cmdr. Toalson introduced the evening's guest speaker:

LCDR Dwight Hughes, USN Retired

Mr. Hughes presented a very interesting and fact filled talk on the design & construction of the USS *Monitor* and the battle of Hampton Roads. A very good Q&A period followed regarding construction flaws, sea worthiness, tactics, munitions & training of the sailors on both the *Monitor* & *Virginia*. This and much more is covered in his new book: *Unlike Anything That Ever Floated - The 'Monitor' & the battle of Hampton Roads*"



Cmdr. Toalson and
LCDR Hughes

Committee Reports and Announcements:

Cemetery Report

2nd Lt. Commander Steve White reported that on July 22nd Sunnyside Cemetery was spruced up with a weed-eater detail.

Old & New Business

- U.D.C. Thoughts - Bonnie Mittelmaier & Lynne Jakobowski
- Treasurer's Report - Treasurer Ken Parsons
- Adjutant's Report - Adjutant Dave Watson

Book Raffle

Proceeds of \$48 were donated to the Camp Treasury for the raffle of the three donations.

Benediction

Given by Bonnie Mittelmaier of the UDC



The rock fish for dinner was a hit!

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 paulwhuelskamp@gmail.com
Quartermaster	George Bridewell gbridewell@aol.com
Historian	Fred Boelt fwb@widomaker.com

Compatriots In Period Gear

Robert Glaser
32nd Virginia
Infantry



Commander's Comments

It was a very enjoyable July meeting. The rockfish and the lemon pie were both huge hits. Dwight Hughes gave a very interesting talk on the U.S.S. *Monitor* and her engagement with the C.S.S. *Virginia*. Things got even livelier in the Q&A session and there was no doubt that Dwight knew his subject and the audience was getting all fired up about engineering specifics, gearing on the turret, powder charges used in the guns, methods of dampening recoil, and all sorts of other minutia. Two untried ships, with untrained crews, learning about their ships on March 8 and 9, 1862, during the heat of battle.

We were pleased to have a contingent of ladies from the Williamsburg U.D.C. join us for the July meeting. Bonnie Mittelmaier and Lynne Jakobowski updated the Camp on their plans for a new bronze plaque, for the Soldiers and Sailors Monument, which will be installed in 2022. They honored us by including Camp 2095 in the opening plaque inscription:

“Re-erected on April 7, 2021, and rededicated on May 1, 2022, by the combined efforts of the Williamsburg Chapter 637 of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and James City Cavalry Camp 2095 Sons of Confederate Veterans”

In my humble opinion, our two organizations are the example for both the UDC and the SCV on how our two organizations should work together to support each other to achieve our common goals.

We all serve in the memory of our ancestors,

Jeff Toalson



Confederate Gravesites

(Contributed by Compatriot Fred Boelt)

Over the years, we have looked at the lives and service records of many men from the Williamsburg – James City County area. Just when I think we have covered the territory, a few more Confederate sympathizers come to light.

The Fenton brothers fall into this category. John T. and Rebecca Piggott Fenton, residents of James City County, had two sons and a daughter. John was a farmer who may have lived in the general area of present-day Croaker. His older son, Benjamin Walker Fenton, was born in October 1833, and his younger son, Henry W. Fenton, was born on May 16, 1839.

In the 1850 census, Benjamin was living in the home of William Durfey, a merchant in Williamsburg, and clerking in Durfey's store. Henry was still living with his parents. By 1860, Benjamin had married Nancy, and they had a six-month-old daughter, Mary. They seemed to be living in the Centerville area of the county, and Benjamin's occupation was "sawyer." His brother, Henry, was living on William S. Minor's farm off Bush Neck Road, and he was employed as a "teamster."

When war broke out, Benjamin Fenton enlisted as a private in Company H, 32nd Virginia Infantry, in Williamsburg on May 16, 1861. This company became Company B, 1st Virginia Artillery, also known as the James City Artillery. For September through December 1861, he was detailed to work on public works near Williamsburg. In May 1862, he reenlisted for the war and was promoted to 5th Sergeant on May 12th. He was furloughed on August 28th and on March 1, 1863, he was promoted to Quarter Master Sergeant. Benjamin Fenton was marked present on all rolls through December 1864 where his service records end.

Brother Henry Fenton enlisted as a private in Company B, James City Artillery, in Williamsburg, on September 15, 1861. His scant service record indicates that he was present on all rolls through December 1864, and he was issued clothing in October 1864. The James City Artillery saw action during the Peninsula campaign and the Richmond-Petersburg area for much of the war.

Both brothers returned to James City County after the war. Benjamin's first wife had died during the war, and he married Lucy Jane Williams of New Kent County soon after the war was over. In 1870, they were living in the Centerville Road area, and Benjamin was listed as a sawmill owner. His brother, Henry Fenton was living with him and was listed as an engineer at a sawmill. Perhaps saws powered by steam were in use at the mill.

In 1880, Benjamin and Lucy, their five children plus Benjamin's daughter by Nancy, were living in the Jamestown District of the county, and his occupation was listed as lumber manufacturer. They eventually had four more children. In the meantime, Henry had married Elizabeth, and they had two sons. They were living in the Stonehouse District of the county, perhaps in the Croaker area based on surrounding households. Henry was working at a sawmill; perhaps Benjamin's?

Benjamin Fenton's wife, Lucy, died in 1886, leaving a young family behind. Henry W. Fenton died on December 17, 1891, followed by Benjamin who died by 1897, when his land was listed for sale. Where were these veterans buried? The average person did not have obituaries written about them during this time period and local newspapers were non-existent. Fenton tombstones do not appear in local family or church cemeteries. Is there yet another family cemetery lost in the woods somewhere with the graves of two more Confederate veterans? Hopefully, someone knows where the Fenton family is interred.

Special Projects at the Monument Rededication

The James City Cavalry was instrumental in providing several key components to make sure the May 1, 2022, rededication ceremony was a success. Compatriot Ron Perry suggested that a large tent was needed, obtained quotes and a supplier to erect the tent. He also borrowed a multi-passenger golf cart that we used to shuttle people with mobility issues. Adjutant Dave Watson donated mulch which was placed around the monument, walkway, and plantings prior to the ceremony. Aide-de-Camp Jon Holland secured all of the chairs, for tent seating, from his company and handled the delivery and return. 2nd Lt. Commander Steve White provided the speaker platform and secured the loan of the sound system from the Olive Branch Christian Church. He also raised the U. S. flag, the Virginia flag, and the Confederate First National flag, on the flagpole, at sunrise. Compatriot David Hastedt created the parking layouts and traffic patterns using 3 adjacent church lots and a plan for parking cars around the interior walls of the Fort Magruder earthworks.



(Courtesy of Al Mittelmaier)

These 4 pictures show the location of the tent behind the monument and the two magnolia trees and show all of the other items mentioned. All of these men coordinated their tasks with Treasurer Ken Parsons who was our site foreman.



(Courtesy of Dick Fickling)



(Courtesy of Al Mittelmaier)



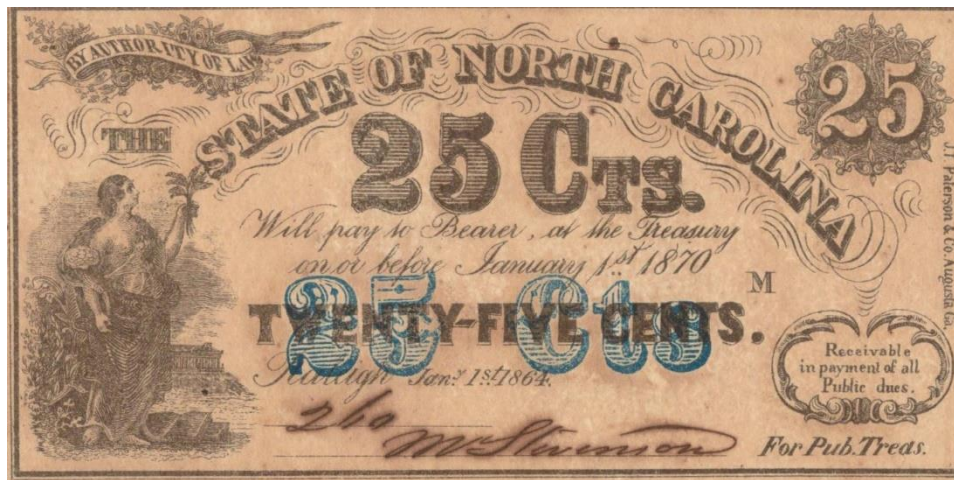
(Courtesy of Al Mittelmaier)

Donation to the Swem Archives

On page 5 in the July issue, we noted the three volumes of Southern history we donated. The key item was the family history of artilleryman Nathaniel V. Watkins in *A Family Portrait: 1840-1890*. We also donated two pieces of wartime state currency to the Swem archive Confederate currency collection.

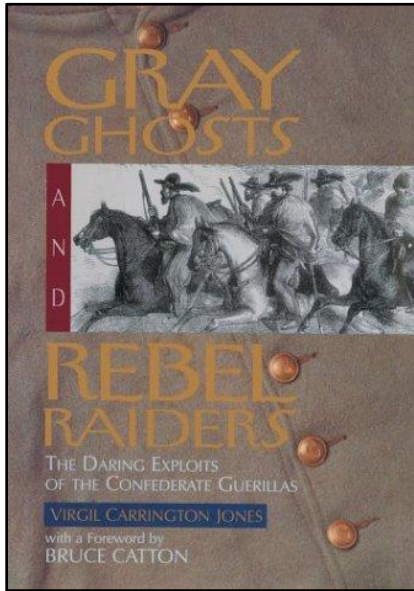


VA-7A: Virginia \$1.00 dated July 21, 1862. It depicts a woman seated center, Governor John Letcher (1860-1864) lower left. The bill has red and black ink. Printed by Hoyer & Ludwig of Richmond. Authorized by the Virginia legislature 12/26/1861 and 3/31/1862.

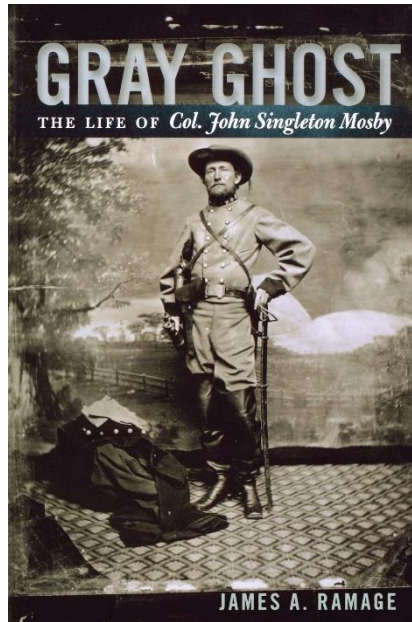


NC-37: North Carolina 25 cts. dated January 1, 1864. Ceres (the Goddess of Agriculture) seated at left; the note is the same type as NC-27 (Jan. 63) except the print date & "25 CTS" overprinted in blue. Plates A-P. Printed by J. T. Paterson & Co. of Augusta, Georgia.

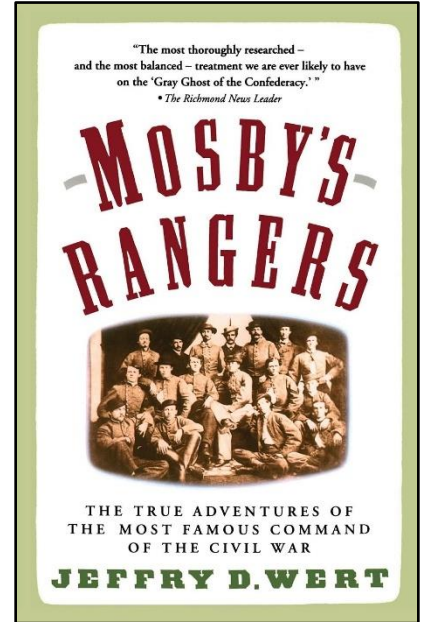
August Book Raffle



“Gray Ghosts and Rebel Raiders”
By Virgil Carrington Jones

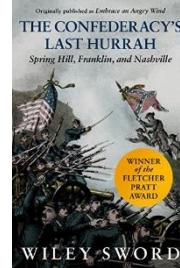


“Gray Ghost - The Life of John S. Mosby”
by James A Ramage



“Mosby's Rangers”
by Jeffry D. Wert

Bonus Book: “The Confederacy's
Last Hurrah - Spring Hill, Franklin
& Nashville”
by Wiley Sword



Williamsburg Civil War Round Table



<http://www.wcwrt.org>

On September 27th, 2022 - Eric Wittenberg
will present a topic to be determined.