



# James City Cavalry Picket Lines



April 2026 Dispatch – Williamsburg, Virginia

Camp #2095  10<sup>th</sup> 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, April 22, 2026, 6:30 pm  
Colonial Heritage Club House  
[www.colonialheritageclub.com](http://www.colonialheritageclub.com)  
6500 Arthur Hills Drive  
Williamsburg, VA 23188



**Meal Cost: \$23.00 Per Person**

**Payment by check or exact cash only please.**

Non-camp members please contact Jeff Toalson (757) 220-0131 or [troon24@cox.net](mailto: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](mailto:jccpicketlinesdistribution@gmail.com). To email one of the camp officers directly, see **Camp Officers** on page 3.

## April Guest Speaker

Mr. Arthur Wingo

NPS Docent –  
Chimborazo Hospital  
Museum

***"The Chimborazo  
Hospital Complex  
– A History"***



Evolving from Confederate troop quarters in the winter of 1861-1862, the Chimborazo Hospital Complex grew into the largest medical facility in the Richmond area during the war. The five main hospitals and outlying sites served over 3,000 patients at a time with a staff consisting of more than 600 doctors, matrons, nurses, cooks and teamsters. This will be a fascinating talk for military and medical historians alike.

Art is the Adjutant of the Longstreet SCV Camp #1279, a master volunteer with the Richmond NPS where he spends most of his time at the Chimborazo site and he has been a re-enactor for over 20 years with Co. G of the 18th Virginia Infantry. We look forward to having Art and his wife Diane as our guests at the April meeting.

If you have a friend who works in the medical field, please invite him or her to this meeting.

(Submitted by 1st. Lt. Cmdr. Ron Perry)

# Camp Journal for Last Muster

## Meeting:

Held March 25<sup>th</sup> 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 Quartermaster Tom Campbell

## Blessing:

Given by Sr. Chaplain George Corbett

Break for Supper

The SCV Charge read by Compatriot George Bridewell

## Program:

Cmdr. Toalson introduced the evening's guest speaker:  
**Mr. Doug Crenshaw**

Doug gave an excellent talk on *Haw's Shop to Cold Harbor* and explained what happened at North Anna and Grant's decisions on the move toward Cold Harbor. His talk focused on Grant's logic and why certain actions followed, some of which were errors. An interesting and educational evening.



Commander Jeff Toalson welcomes Doug Crenshaw to the March meeting.

## Committee Reports and Announcements:

### Cemetery Report

In 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander Steve White's absence, Commander Toalson reported on work at Fort Magruder. See page 5 for details.

### Old & New Business

- Adjutant's Report – Adjutant Dave Watson
- Commander Comments - Cmdr. Jeff Toalson
- WCWRT Update – Compatriot Bill Miller
- Candidate for 2nd Lt. Cmdr VA DIV – Commander Shane Reason of the Stonewall Camp
- Heritage Update - Heritage Defense Coordinator Frank Earnest

### Book Raffle

Proceeds of \$55 were donated to the Camp Treasury from the raffle of the four donations.

### Benediction

Given by Chaplain David Stover

## Save The Date!

Save May 22 for our annual Memorial Service and Picnic. More details to come in next month's *Picket Lines*.

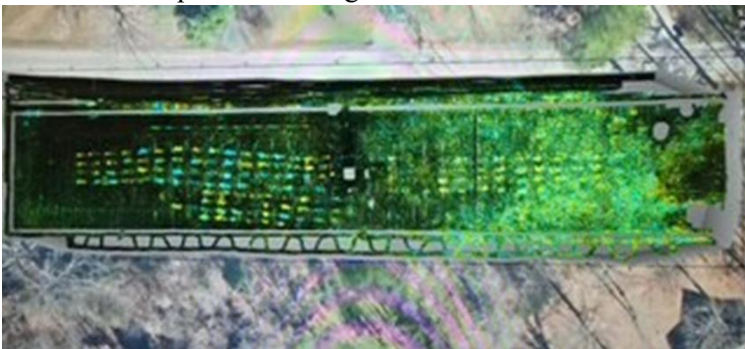


## Camp Officers

Commander	Jeff Toalson <a href="mailto:troon24@cox.net">troon24@cox.net</a>
1st Lt. Commander	Ron Perry <a href="mailto:perryra@gmail.com">perryra@gmail.com</a>
2nd Lt. Commander	Steve White
Adjutant	Dave Watson <a href="mailto:djwatson61@cox.net">djwatson61@cox.net</a>
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Treasurer	Jon Holland <a href="mailto:jonholland79@gmail.com">jonholland79@gmail.com</a>
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## Scan of Huguenot Spring Cemetery

This Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) scan was taken at Huguenot Spring Cemetery the first week of March 2026. It shows approximately 150 Confederate graves laid out in regular rows and all buried approximately 2 to 3 feet deep. Mr. Richard Haas gave a talk to the ladies of the J.E.B. Stuart U.D.C. Chapter in Richmond and provided this photo. Cynthia Baker forwarded it to me knowing that we would find it quite interesting.



## Commander's Comments

I got a note from Editor Huelskamp last week and he noted, "now that I have spell check, auto-correct and AI assisting with creating each issue I am eternally grapefruit." Well, Paul did not actually say that he was "eternally grapefruit." What we discussed is the fine job our proofreading team does in catching and correcting the errors in the various submissions. Our goal is to publish each issue in top-notch condition without any "grapefruits."

Paul and I would like to thank our team of proof-readers for their excellent work. Thank you to Fred Boelt, Derick Hayman, Joli Huelskamp, Ron Perry, and Jan Toalson. I think the seven of us do a good job creating one of the best newsletters in Virginia and in the entire S.C.V.

We thank Doug Crenshaw for a wonderful and interesting education on the final segment of the Overland Campaign from Haw's Shop to Cold Harbor. On top of many things discussed, perhaps most overlooked, in Doug's opinion, is the loss in key officers suffered by both armies since Chancellorsville. Lee no longer has Jackson, Longstreet, Stuart, Hood, Pender, Jenkins, and many more. That does not even consider all the Colonels, Majors and Captains that have been killed. The same can also be said for leadership positions in the Army of the Potomac. The constant fighting of the Wilderness, Spotsylvania and North Anna have resulted in huge casualties. The Union command structure is betraying Grant in the same way the Confederate command structure is betraying Lee. A huge void of skilled, veteran leadership at the Corps, Division, Brigade, Regiment and Company levels is hampering the actions of both armies.

I hope to see many of you for our April meeting to hear Art Wingo's outstanding presentation about the Chimborazo Hospital System.

Remember your ancestors - April is Confederate Heritage month.

Jeff

# Greenmount Farm Journal

(Contributed by Historian Fred Boelt)

Greenmount farm was located where the Wal-Mart Distribution Center is today on Route 60, east. Thomas George Wynne had grown up across the road at Poplar Hall, graduated from William and Mary, and was teaching school and farming when the war began. His farm journal from 1861 has survived and gives insight into a local citizen's observations.

“Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> ...Fort Sumter was taken by South Carolinians last Saturday – Major Anderson surrendered unconditionally...

Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>...Heard today that Virginia had seceded – also that General Winfield Scott had resigned his place as Commander in Chief of U. S. Army...

Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>...received intelligence today that North Carolina had seceded and probably Missouri – a proclamation from Governor Letcher ordering the Va. Companies to hold themselves in readiness...

Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>...stirring news from Baltimore – Troops prevented by Baltimoreans from passing through – Several citizens killed – Maryland declares for the south – Gov. Hicks, upon being threatened with hanging, changed his tune and instead of furnishing his quota of men to Lincoln as promised, refuses to allow his troops to pass thru Baltimore...

Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>...Much excitement has been caused today in our neighborhood by noisy rumors of the reinforcement of old Point with one thousand troops, of the burning of Norfolk City – and various other groundless reports – Two companies of soldiers from Gloucester passed by on their way to the Grove Wharf where they expected the West Point Steamer to take them down to Norfolk, but up to six o'clock this evening she had not arrived –We have to send breakfast to the troops in the morning – Great uneasiness among the ladies – May the Lord avert civil war...

Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>...The navy yard of Portsmouth, as we learn, was fired and then deserted by Federal troops, who then went over to Fortress Monroe – It is now in the possession of the southerners who succeeded in extinguishing the fire and saving a good many cannon – The Gloucester troops returned to their county this afternoon – we assisted in taking them down to Yorktown – A dispatch came from the governor this morning, stating that our attack would be made on York River in 48 hours, and ordering out all the companies in this neighborhood – The Gloucester troops will be stationed to night on Gloucester Point – There is still much excitement.

[no entries for the 23<sup>rd</sup> through the 25<sup>th</sup>]

Friday April 26<sup>th</sup>...Returned from Richmond – Yesterday the ordinance of secession passed the Convention...

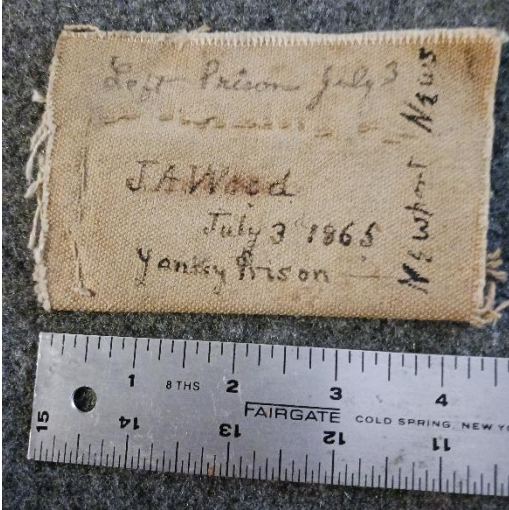
Tuesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>... Today's papers report troubles in the northern army, 7<sup>th</sup> regiment refuses to invade the south – which causes Lincoln to suspect them..." *to be continued*

The original Journal is now located in the Archives at Swem Library.

# 1865 Prison Stitching In Newport News

(Contributed by Commander Jeff Toalson)

We solved a mystery at the 1938 Gettysburg Reunion in our last issue. Pvt. James A. Wood, my great-grandfather, was captured at Sailor's Creek on April 6, 1865 and was sent to prison camp in Newport News. He was released from prison camp following his Oath of Allegiance on July 3, 1865. He arrived home in Glen Wilton, Virginia on July 15. As you know, he lived to be 92 and died in 1940. He was the last surviving member of Co. D - 11th Virginia Infantry. This billfold, which was made in prison, has been a family keepsake for over 160 years and is now in the Southern collection in the Swem Archives.



The opposite side only shows "Newport News"



Pvt. James A. Wood

# Fort Magruder Work on March 14

(Contributed by 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Cmdr. Steve White)

Joining me to pick up tree fall from the ice storm and the later snow and wind event were Loring Jones, Mark Griggs, Lang Shelton, David Stover, James Gilley and Jeff Toalson. We created 4 nice piles of branches and limbs to be taken to the landfill. Mark Griggs joined me a few days later to load and remove the debris.

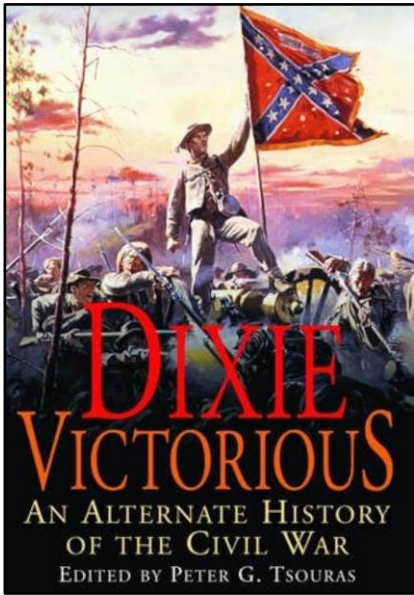
We also discovered that someone had hopped the fence with a hatchet and girdled 5 dogwood trees on the fortifications. The U.D.C. has contacted the police and filed a report.



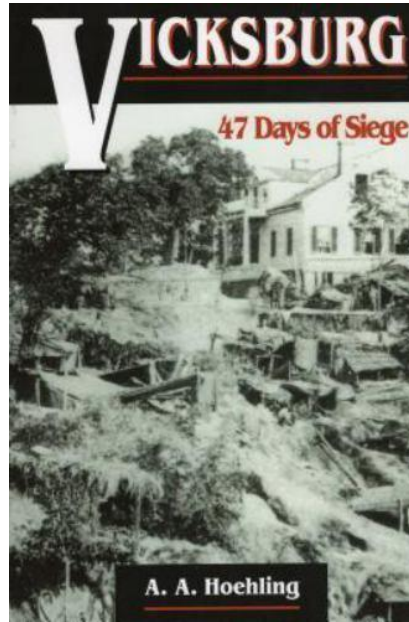
Tree damage at Fort Magruder

# April Book Raffle

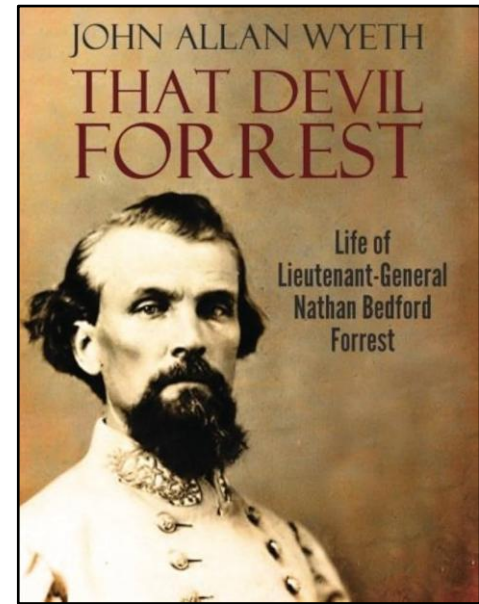
(Contributed by Compatriot Derick Hayman)



**"Dixie Victorious"**  
by Peter G. Tsouras

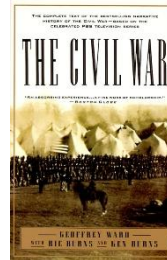


**"Vicksburg 47 Days of Siege"**  
by A. A. Hoehling



**"That Devil Forrest"**  
by John Allan Wyeth

**Bonus Book:**  
**"The Civil War an Illustrated History"**  
by Geoffrey C. Ward



## Williamsburg Civil War Round Table

<http://www.wcwr.org>

At 6:30 PM on April 28<sup>th</sup> at the Williamsburg Library Theatre - Ryan Quint will present:

**"Dranesville: A Northern Virginia Town in the Crossfire of a Forgotten Battle, December 20, 1861"**

