



# James City Cavalry Picket Lines



October 2024 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, October 23, 2024, 6:30 pm  
Colonial Heritage Club House  
[www.colonialheritageclub.com/find-us](http://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](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.

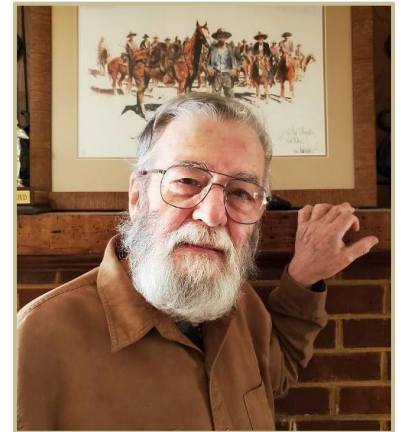
JCC Web Site: <http://www.jamescitycavalry.org>

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.

## October Guest Speaker

Mr. Larry Floyd

*"The Hillsville Courthouse Shootout & Tragedy"*



We are taking a break from the normal WBTS topics this month. Our good friend Larry Floyd will speak to us about the "Carroll County Massacre." This took place in the Carroll County Courthouse in Hillsville, Virginia. It all started with a red ear of corn and ended with 5 dead in a shootout. Larry will bring examples of the types of pocket guns carried by the shooters and the victims. This presentation should be zany. Also, if you have WBTS era weapons that you would like Larry to examine and offer wisdom regarding their care, value etc. . . Bring those weapons with you to our October meeting.

Larry Floyd is a native of Chesapeake, Virginia. He served in the Virginia State Police from 1962-1995. He is a 56-year member of the North-South Skirmish Association and began his interest in, and collection of, weapons of the WBTS in 1960.

# Camp Journal for Last Muster

## Meeting:

Held September 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM at Colonial Heritage Club House,  
James City County, Va., **28** Attendees

Welcome given by Cmdr. Jeff Toalson

Pledge & Salute to the Flags led by Treasurer Jon Holland

## Blessing:

Given by Sr. Chaplain George Corbett

Break for Supper

The SCV Charge read by Compatriot George Bridewell

## Program:

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

**Ms. Jennifer England & Mr. Albert Burckard**

They presented "*A History of Isle of Wight*

*County During the War Between the States*", a very

interesting presentation on The Isle of Wight County in the WBTS. We  
learned all kinds of interesting tidbits of local knowledge.



1st Lt. Cmdr. Ron Perry welcomes Jennifer England and Albert Burckard to the September James City Cavalry meeting

## Committee Reports and Announcements:

### Cemetery Report

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander Steve White reported that in late August Fred Boelt advised that Peach Park was overgrown. In response to an email Mike Garrett brought his John Deere mower and Dennis Dasher and I worked with weed eaters trimming around, trees, graves and fence posts. Peach Park is back in a presentable condition for the fall season. We need to address a maintenance plan for 2025.

### Old & New Business

- Adjutant's Report – Adjutant Dave Watson
- Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Jon Holland
- Commander's Comments - Cmdr. Jeff Toalson
- WCWRT October Program - Compatriot Bill Miller

### New Member Induction

New Member – Compatriot LORING JONES



Cmdr. Toalson (L), new member Loring Jones, Adjutant Watson and 1st Lt. Cmdr. Perry following his induction.

### Benediction

Given by Sr. Chaplain George Corbett

## 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>
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Chief of Staff	Ken Parsons <a href="mailto:kparsons320@gmail.com">kparsons320@gmail.com</a>
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Senior Chaplain	George Corbett <a href="mailto:georgecorbett@cox.net">georgecorbett@cox.net</a>
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## 2024 SCV Booth at the Virginia State Fair

The Cavalry manned the booth on Friday, October 4. Pictured from LtoR are Compatriots Ron Perry, Tom Campbell, Perry Turner, Derick Hayman, Jeff Toalson and Lang Shelton. Three of the team were wearing SCV caps with the Army of Northern Virginia battle flag. Ron's cap has the flag of Dreux's 1st Louisiana Battalion, Perry's cap depicts a Hardee pattern flag of the Washington Light Artillery, and Jeff's cap is the Van Dorn pattern flag of Cowan's Mississippi Light Artillery. It was a fun and effective day promoting, recruiting and selling merchandise.



## Commander's Comments

It is with sadness that I report that Compatriot Fred Satterwhite passed away on September 1<sup>st</sup> in a care facility in Newton, North Carolina. In 2005, Fred was one of the founding members of the James City Cavalry Camp. He and his wife Mary Harris Satterwhite were regular attendees at our meetings. Mary's brother Jim Harris was a long-time member of the Camp and his sons Jere and Mac Harris are current Camp members. We share our sympathies with Jere, Mac and their families in this time of loss.

Joe Duggan met Kevin and Lucia Tyrrell (Alexandria, Virginia) and Cooper (their English Lab) at Fort Magruder on September 22<sup>nd</sup> so that they could see the monuments and the inside of the fort. Kevin's great-grandfather was in the 17<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry and fought in the 'Ravine' and out in front of Fort Magruder. On the night of May 5<sup>th</sup>, in the rain, both the 11<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry were camped in and around the fort. Lucia grew up in a house a little over a block away from the Fort and as a little girl played on the hill (battlements). I joined them for the visit, and we discussed the history of both the monument and the fort.

In the October and November issues we will provide information on our 2024 Keating-Cavalry donations to the Swem Archives. This year we acquired a marvelous 'lice-comb,' 2 'patriotic envelopes' with clever cartoons aimed at General Beauregard and President Jefferson Davis, a copy of a letter from the government service records of Private William M. Pitts of the Palmetto Sharpshooters (see our April 2024 issue of *Picket Lines*) who died in Williamsburg and two issues of the *New York Daily Tribune* from March and May 1862. This brings to 13 the number of issues of the *Daily Tribune* in the Swem Archives. If you have read my recent *Ma, Wee Got Nuthin Here But Mud & Muskeeters* you are aware of the many quotes I used from the *Daily Tribune* on hospitals, supplies, evacuation of both wounded and prisoners in addition to reports from the battlefields at Williamsburg and Seven Pines.

Jeff Toalson

# Confederate Gravesites

(Contributed by Compatriot Fred Boelt)

After the Peninsula Campaign in the spring of 1862, life changed forever in York and the surrounding counties. The territory was now occupied by Union forces, and Sarah Wade remembered those somber times: "Then Gen. McClelland marched up & we were left behind with the enemy. Those were sad days for the dear Old South. Then the long years of struggle & the final fall of Richmond. ... The country had been sacked and devastated. My mother [Ann Cary Curtis Wade] thought starvation ahead of her when she saw the U. S. Government wagons backed up at the barn which had been broken open, taking Thus, the grain. All the stock had been killed, the fences torn Thus, and nothing left."

Supplies had been depleted or destroyed, the labor force was gone, and the spring planting season was about over when citizens tried to replenish bare necessities. Lucy Elizabeth Wade continued to record her thoughts on the times: "Several of the citizens have been arrested on Negroes' evidence and confined in the riplaps [Ft. Wool] for months. There is no telling to what extent despotism prevailed, and this government is what they boast of as one of the freeist [sic] and best on the globe. Thus, the months passed away, it was almost too late to begin farming, the Negroes all gone, everyone had to work for himself, some were too much discouraged to begin work. A few acres of corn were planted, much of which never came to maturity. Thus, were things in an awful condition under Yankee rule."

Lucy and Sarah's brother, John Wade, added: "When the Northern army fell back from Richmond, they spread over the country side. One morning about fifty of them came to our home to get something to eat; it was hard for us to get food, but we always would try to get something for a hungry soldier whether Yankee or Southerner. After the Northern Army went up the Peninsula they would stop by to see us occasionally. Many of them said they were not fighting to free the Negroes; they were fighting for the Union."

In addition to the deprivation of supplies for daily life, there was the constant concern for absent family members. A number of residents of the Peninsula fled the area ahead of the spring campaign. Many continued to "refugee" in safe areas throughout the south for the remainder of the war. Communications with friends and family back home were limited at best. Even more challenging was hearing from family members serving with the Confederate forces. Their unknown well-being added to the stress of the times.

Lucy continued: "We could not hear a word from our friends who were away in the army. Occasionally a spy would come down and the citizens would flock around him to hear what tidings he would bring to their friends, but this means of communication was very imperfect. We were thus reduced to the completest state of subjection that mortals could be.

Such was the state of affairs when the battle of Seven Pines and the Seven days battle were fought [June 1862]. The greatest consternation prevailed in that portion of the army which was cut off. They said they did not know what would become of them and they shouted that Jackson was behind them. We were greatly in hopes that 'Stonewall' was behind them. In a few days we got papers with McClelland's great strategic movement, great victory, etc. McClelland says he fought the rebels seven days against great odds and whipped them every time. Now how they can manage to tell such lies I can't imagine.

Everything was very quiet down here as long as McClelland's army remained at Harrison's landing. On the retreat from Harrison's, they were much more orderly than on the advance at this place, but at some place..." There are missing pages at this point in Lucy's diary. A few pages from 1864 and 1865 have survived.

All of the counties on the lower peninsula were under military rule from the spring of 1862, through the end of the war. Provisions were slim to non-existent. The resourceful inhabitants adapted to the new requirements for survival. They continued to support their men in arms with letters and parcels that they slipped through the lines. And when the dreaded news of the dead or wounded soldiers eventually got to the families, their grief was sustained by their faith. And Sarah closed her writing with: "But God in his mercy saw fit to spare us. And the South has nothing for which to be ashamed, and will eventually come into its own."

# Keating – Camp 2024 SWEM Archives Donation

(Contributed by Commander Jeff Toalson)

For nine consecutive years the Cavalry has been making historical WBTS donations to the Swem Archives at William and Mary in memory of Mrs. Jean Keating and her support of the James City Cavalry and our many projects supporting the preservation of history. In the past issues of *Picket Lines* we have documented those many varied donations.

For 2024 we are pleased to have some interesting and varied items documenting life during the WBTS, and whenever possible life in the Tidewater region of Virginia. Below is a picture of a 'Lice Comb' which was recovered during renovation of a building that was a 'Brothel' during the war in Charleston, South Carolina. Lice were endemic and a constant irritant for the soldiers in both armies. This comb is constructed of wood and is in very nice condition with no missing teeth or damage. This was a classic possession of the soldier to rid lice from his scalp, beard and mustache. These very popular items were sold by camp sutlers.

Actual size is 3" x 2"



Patriotic envelopes were in demand during the war and this Union envelope depicts General Beauregard building earthworks and trenches around Manassas and other points in northern Virginia.



We continue to search for copies of the *New York Daily Tribune* from February through June of 1862. Their correspondents filed numerous reports on all kinds of activities in the Tidewater region. On the next page of this issue of *Picket Lines* there are some highlights of the March 28, 1862 issue.

# SWEM Donation – N.Y. Daily Tribune

*New York Daily Tribune* \* Friday \* March 28, 1862 \*

“A Sea-Going Monitor”

P5/col.2

Capt. Erickson’s model of a sea-going Monitor, 340 feet long, has reached the Navy Department. It is similar in design to its little namesake, now lying in wait for the mailed monster, which is momentarily expected from Norfolk. Like that, it has but one propeller and a single turret. The Department is inclined to favor two propellers and two turrets for a vessel of this size. A board to examine and report upon the numerous plans and models which have responded to the Secretary of the Navy’s advertisement has been constituted. It consists of Com. Jos. Smith (Chief of the Bureau of Yards & Docks), John Lenthall (Chief of the Bureau of Construction), B. F. Isherwood (Chief of the Bureau of Engineers) and Mr. Hart, Naval Constructor.

“The Monitor and Merrimac”

P5/col. 3

Capt. Jeffries of the Monitor sent his compliments to Capt. Dahlgren last night, with the assurance that the Monitor is fully prepared to meet the Merrimac, and that he has no doubt he will whip her when she comes to scratch.

(ed: This is strictly ‘hot air’ . . . because the *Virginia* came out and steamed around Hampton Roads for the next month, capturing shipping, shelling Union ships and positions and the *Monitor* would not come out to fight.)

“From Fortress Monroe”

“The Merrimac Ready for Battle”

P6/col. 1

Contrabands state that the Rebel steamer Merrimac, having been fully repaired, was brought out of dry-dock Monday morning and the crew has been placed on board. . . . she was ready for action. Several new guns of heavier caliber had been placed on board

The Rebel steamers Jamestown and Yorktown have also been greatly strengthened, and fully prepared for action, and will accompany the Merrimac.

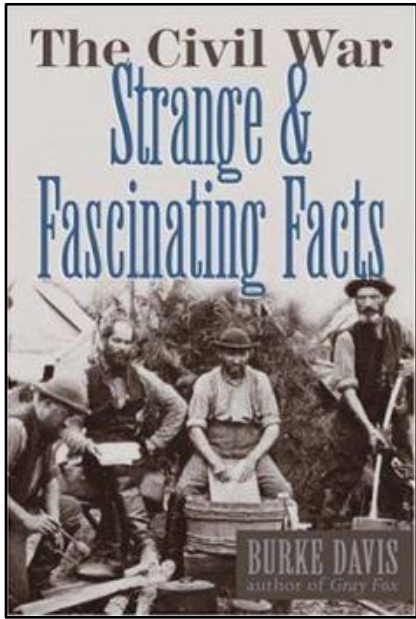
The flag of the Yorktown, with the Commodores’ pennant, was flying when the contrabands left.

The Rebel gunboat Jamestown made a reconnaissance today coming down some distance below Craney Island.

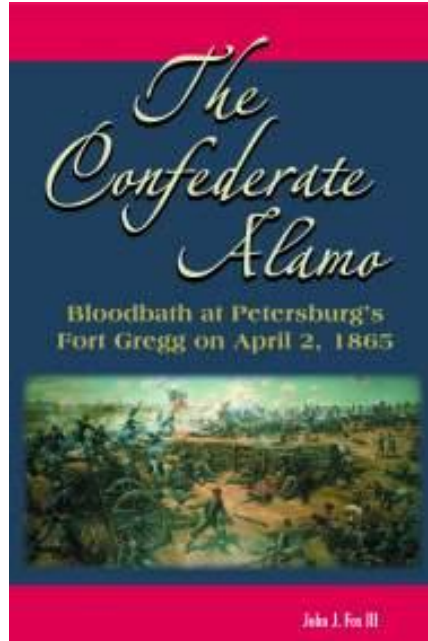
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KEATING-CAVALRY 2024 Donation to the Swem Archives: The March 28, 8-page issue of the *Tribune* is one of several donations for 2024 to the archive. This issue contains several more items on the ironclads, news from Ft. Monroe, an article on Big Bethel, and a wide variety of other items on the war, shipping, general merchandise, advertisements, weather, politics, missing money and the loss of 13 fishing vessels in a gale off the Georges Bank. This issue will be added to their collection of NY Daily Tribune issues from the first half of 1862.

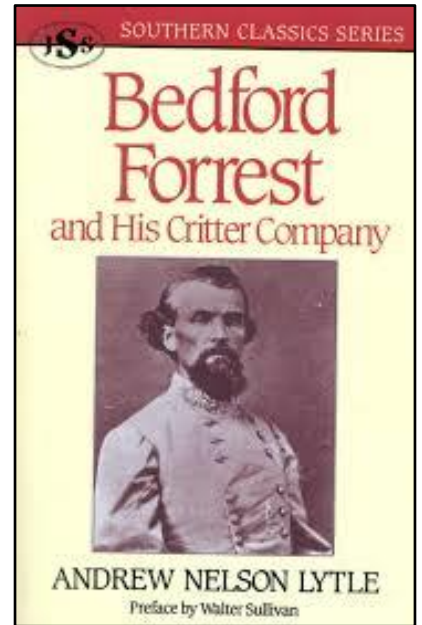
# October Book Raffle



"The Civil War Strange & Fascinating Facts"  
by Burke Davis

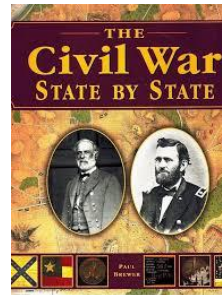


"The Confederate Alamo"  
by John J. Fox, III



"Bedford Forrest and His Critter Company"  
by Andrew Nelson Lytle

Bonus Book:  
"The Civil War State by State"  
by Paul Brewerr



## Williamsburg Civil War Round Table

<http://www.wcwrt.org>

On October 22, 2024 - Victor Vignola  
will present:

**"Contrasts in Command: The Battle of Fair Oaks"**

