



James City Cavalry Picket Lines



March 2026 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, March 25th, 2026, 6:30 pm
Colonial Heritage Club House
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 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. To email one of the camp officers directly, see **Camp Officers** on page 3.

March Guest Speaker

Doug Crenshaw
President of the
Richmond Civil War
Roundtable



*"Haw's Shop to
Cold Harbor -
Grant's Logic and
Why It Went
Wrong"*

Doug's talk will investigate some of the actions leading up to Cold Harbor and why the battle was fought where it was. He will also delve into things that led to Grant's decision to attack. Doug will point out that there was plenty of blame to go around.

Doug Crenshaw studied history at Randolph-Macon College and the University of Richmond. He is a volunteer for the Richmond National Battlefield Park, a Board member of the Richmond Battlefield Association and a former president of the Richmond Civil War Roundtable. His books include *Fort Harrison and The Battle of Chaffin's Farm*, *The Battle of Glendale: Robert E. Lee's Lost Opportunity* and *Richmond Shall not be Given Up!* He is currently working on a book about the Battle of Beaver Dam Creek (Mechanicsville).

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

Camp Journal for Last Muster

Meeting:

Held February 25th at 6:30 PM at Colonial Heritage Club House,
James City County, Va., **31** 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 Quartermaster Tom Campbell

Program:

Cmdr. Toalson introduced the evening's guest speaker:
Cmdr. Andrew Morehead

Andrew presented part two of his General A. P. Hill program. This talk dealt with the transfer of his remains to Culpeper and the ceremonies and burial in his hometown cemetery; a wonderful evening. See page 5 for more details.



Cmdr. Toalson (L) welcomes Cmdr. Andrew Morehead of the General Wickham Camp to our meeting.

Committee Reports and Announcements:

Cemetery Report

2nd Lt. Commander Steve White has scheduled tree removal work and berm work at Fort Magruder on March 14. The final Fort Magruder clean-up before the May 3 UDC Ceremony is planned for either April 18 or 25 depending on the weather.

Old & New Business

- Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Jon Holland
- Comments - Cmdr. Jeff Toalson
- WCWRT Update – Compatriot Bill Miller

New Friend Of Camp Noreen Wood



Commander Toalson (L) and Adjutant Watson officially welcome Noreen Wood as the newest F.O.C. with the Cavalry. Noreen has been a regular at our meetings for years along with Charles and now she is officially a member.

Book Raffle

Proceeds of \$75 were donated to the Camp Treasury from the raffle of the four donations.

Benediction

Given by Chaplain David Stover

Camp Officers

Commander	Jeff Toalson troon24@cox.net
1st Lt. Commander	Ron Perry perryra@gmail.com
2nd Lt. Commander	Steve White
Adjutant	Dave Watson djwatson61@cox.net
Chief of Staff	Ken Parsons kparsons320@gmail.com
Treasurer	Jon Holland jonholland79@gmail.com
Senior Chaplain	George Corbett georgecorbett@cox.net
Chaplain	David Stover gor_cabot1@msn.com
Quartermaster	Tom Campbell tgcampbell1781@gmail.com
Historian	Fred Boelt fwb@widomaker.com
Webmaster	Don Woolridge dsw1229@gmail.com
Archivist/Editor	Paul Huelskamp jccpicketlinesdistribution@gmail.com

The Civil War in March

March 8-9, 1862: Battle of Hampton Roads

Naval warfare changed forever with the battle between the ironclads USS Monitor and CSS Virginia. Although there was no clear victor, the days of wooden hull warships were now numbered.



Commander's Comments

It was great seeing so many of our members in February after two months of missed parties or meetings. Andrew Morehead gave us a marvelous presentation, with amazing photography, of the transfer of General A. P. Hill's remains to Culpeper and the burial ceremonies. Doug Crenshaw will return this month, for his fourth presentation to the Cavalry, and has chosen *Haw's Shop to Cold Harbor* as his topic. Doug will examine General Grant's logic during this portion of the 1864 Overland Campaign and how things went wrong. Yes, there were situations where things went very wrong.

We have some tree work at Fort Magruder coming up mid-month. There is one tree on the battlements that has lost a major limb. It needs to be cut loose from the tree and removed. Steve has visited with the U.D.C. regarding a dead tree, also on the battlements, and it needs to be dropped. Steve will need two or three of our skilled chainsaw people. The rest of us will be worker bees to stack the pieces for later removal.

Lang Shelton will be joining me for this year's Virginia S.C.V. Convention in Bristol, Virginia. On our way out we plan to stop and visit the site of the Cloyd's Mountain battle. It is near where Lang grew up so I have a tour guide. We will bring back another "Outstanding Camp" banner for our flag which Lang will present to our Quartermaster at the April meeting.

On the final page of this newsletter are details on *An Evening at the Battlefield with A. P. Hill*. Mr. Patrick Falci will be the evening entertainment in character as General Hill. An excellent meal is planned, and profits will benefit the A. P. Hill Memorial Association to fund a cenotaph paying tribute to the general in his native Culpeper County. Contact me if you are interested in going and hopefully the Cavalry will have a few folks in a carpool.

Jeff

Confederate Gravesites

(Contributed by Historian Fred Boelt)

Malvern Hill was a plantation located in eastern Henrico County along present-day Route 5, approximately eighteen miles east of Richmond and two miles north of the James River. The last battle of the Seven Days Battles of the War Between the States was fought there on July 1, 1862.

In the spring of 1862, in the Peninsula Campaign, Union General George B. McClellan moved his forces toward Richmond intending to seize the city. By mid-May, McClellan's army was on the outskirts of the Southern Capital, but by early June, Confederate President Jefferson Davis replaced the army commander, Joseph Johnston, with Robert E. Lee following the former's wounding at Seven Pines.

Upon taking command, General Lee started a counter-offensive. In time, the Confederate forces pushed the enemy back at the Battle of Glendale on June 30th. Lee's army then attacked McClellan's forces at Malvern Hill on July 1st. After launching several failed attacks, with nightfall coming, Lee decided to call off any further assaults, thus ending the battle with a Union victory. However, McClellan chose to pull his army back towards the James River, ending the Peninsula Campaign, the Seven Days Battles, and thus securing the Confederate capital at Richmond.

One of my great, great grandfathers, Edmund Thomas Wynne, lived on Chisman's Creek in York County. He had six sons, four of whom fought for the Confederacy. One came home; three did not. One of the sons was Francis (Frank) Lee Wynne. He fought with the York Rangers, 32nd Virginia Infantry, and was the first son to die in battle. Frank Wynne was one of 314 Confederates killed at the Battle of Malvern Hill. It is believed (with some archaeological investigation) that the casualties were interred on the battlefield along Quaker Road.

After the war, as the South began to recover from the loss and devastation of its men and possessions, there was a great clamor for ways to remember the dead and eulogize the living who had fought for the Confederacy. In time, funds were raised for obelisks and statues attesting to the service of so many men. However, there were also other smaller efforts to remember the heroes.

A brick kiln was constructed at the site of the Malvern Hill house in 1888. Commemorative bricks of the battle were molded and fired at the site. Embossed on the brick is "MALVERN HILL" over a cannon with cannon balls, with "JUL 1st" to the left and "1862" to the right of the cannon. The brick is slightly larger than standard construction bricks today.

One of these bricks was set into the brick surround of the fireplace in the home where I grew up in Williamsburg (see photo attached). With all my curiosity, somehow, I never found out the origin of this brick. Obviously, the family had acquired it as a remembrance of Frank Wynne's service and ultimate sacrifice. The two small bricks imbedded above the Malvern Hill brick came from the fire hearth of Edmund Thomas Wynne's home which was destroyed in the hurricane of 1933. And there may be a clue here: perhaps he had the brick. My grandfather built our home for my parents and may have felt that this was an appropriate way to keep the bricks in the family.

Large or small, Confederate remembrances need to be preserved!



1938 Mystery Solved

(Contributed by Cmdr. Jeff Toalson)

My great-grandfather James A. Wood, who was a private in Co. D - 11th Virginia Infantry, attended 5 or more U.C.V. reunions and the 1938 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg Reunion. My mother had this picture. On the back it notes: James A. Wood - Eagle Rock, VA; Vernon Trumbly - Oklahoma City, OK; John H. Grate - Atwater, OH. John appears to be a Union veteran. The only reunion James attended that had both sides was the Gettysburg reunion in 1938 by invitation of the U. S. Government. Jan suggested I google John H. Grate. John enlisted at 18 on 10-4-63 and was forwarded to Co. F - 6th Ohio Cavalry after training. The 6th Ohio Cavalry served under Sheridan. The 11th Virginia Infantry served under Pickett. Neither of these privates were at Gettysburg. They were fighting each other at Dinwiddie Courthouse, Five Forks and Sailors Creek. These two men, both still teenagers, were on the same battlefields for the first week of April 1865. James surrendered to some of Sheridan's Pennsylvania cavalrymen at Sailors Creek. John was also at Sailors Creek. Two farmers, they both went back to farming, and they both lived till the 1940's. James died in 1940 and John in 1949. They found each other and their shared history and someone took a picture.

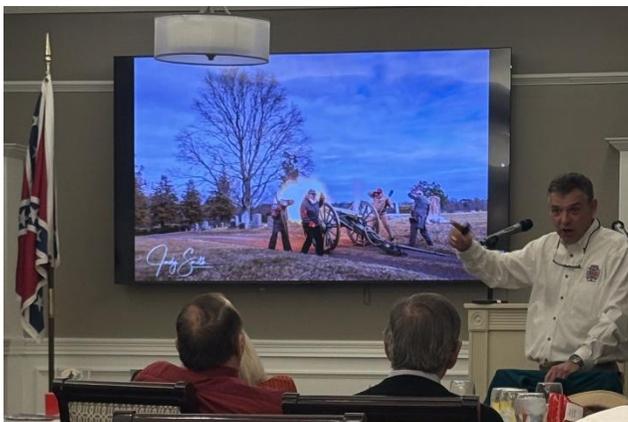
I sent a copy of the photo to John's site on 'Find A Grave' and I have donated this picture along with a wide variety of Wood family WBTS memorabilia to the archives at the Swem Library. Our best guess is that Mr. Trumbly was perhaps an escort assigned to accompany these fellows. I will bet after some 1865 stories that James and John spent most of their time discussing farming and agriculture.



A. P. Hill's Final Ride

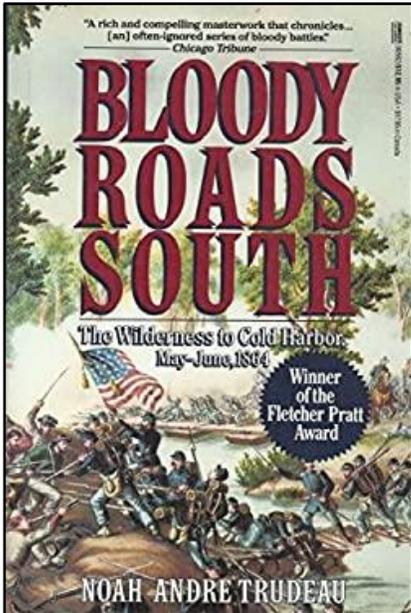
(Contributed by 1st Lt. Cmdr. Ron Perry)

At the February camp meeting Andrew Morehead took us on a journey beginning with the General at their funeral home in the Lee-Davis Parlor, north toward Culpeper with an escort by the Mechanized Cavalry, arrival at the cemetery, transfer of the coffin from the hearse to a mule-drawn wagon, the full military escort, the riderless horse, music, prayers, Patrick Falci in character as A. P. Hill providing the eulogy, the alternating rifle and cannon military honors, and the withdrawal of the troops following his burial. The final touch is the marker provided for his grave by the United States government honoring General A. P. Hill. You will note how magnificent the photographs appear with the power-point projection on the new TV screen at Colonial Heritage. Andrew noted that the alternating rifle and cannon salute was flawless, it was repeated 3 times, and the photo is of the first answering artillery salute. Look at that marvelous sky for a January 2023 service. We all felt like we were with the General for his final ride.

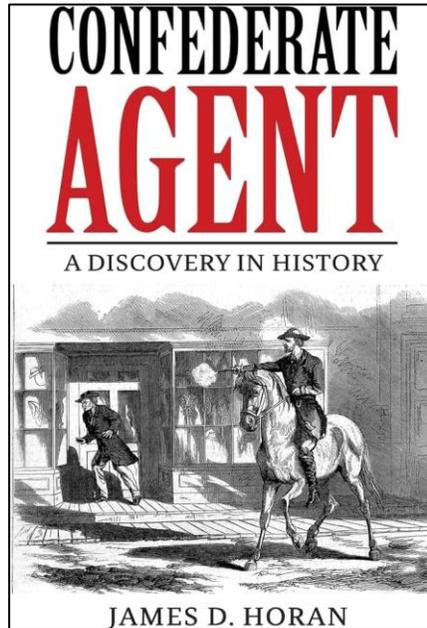


March Book Raffle

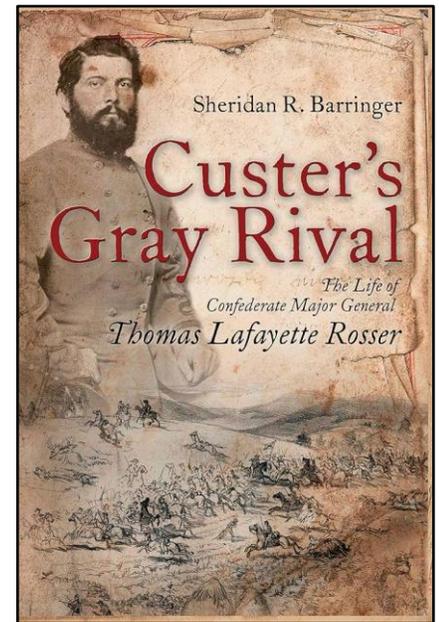
(Contributed by Compatriot Derick Hayman)



“Bloody Roads South - The Wilderness to Cold Harbor”
by Noah Andre Trudeau

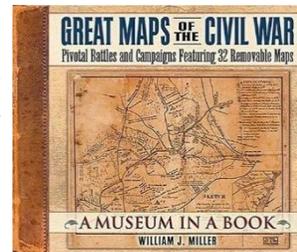


“Confederate Agent”
by James D. Horan



“Custer's Gray Rival”
by Sheridan R. Barringer

Bonus Book:
“Great Maps of the Civil War”
by William J. Miller



Williamsburg Civil War Round Table

<http://www.wcwrt.org>

At 6:30 PM on March 24th at the
Williamsburg Library Theatre - Michael
Block
will present:

“The Mine Run Campaign”



Please Join the A. P. Hill Memorial Association

For:

An Evening at the Battlefield with A.P. Hill



Thursday, April 2nd, 2026
VFW Battlefield Post 9808

7168 Flag Lane
Mechanicsville, VA 23111

5:00 PM
Social Hour with Cash Bar

6:00 PM
Dinner:

House Salad
Steak
Shrimp
Baked potato

(Special Dessert Presentation following the Program)



7:00 PM
Program

A.P. Hill
Actor/Historian



Patrick Falci

Please join us as we commemorate Lt. Gen. A. P. Hill

All proceeds will benefit the A. P. Hill Memorial Association as we continue our commitment to securing a cenotaph paying tribute to Gen. Hill in his native Culpeper County, Virginia.

\$ 50 Per Person

RSVP by March 26, 2026

To purchase tickets or to contact us for other payment options visit:

aphill.org

A. P. Hill Memorial Association
P. O. Box 1063
Mechanicsville, Virginia 23111

Silent Auction of Civil War Prints and A. P. Hill Merchandise will be available. (Credit Card Payments Accepted)