



# James City Cavalry PICKET LINES



February 2015 Dispatch – Williamsburg, Virginia – <http://www.jamescitycavalry.org>

Camp #2095  1st Brigade  Virginia Division  Army of Northern Virginia

A PATRIOTIC HONOR SOCIETY DEDICATED TO SERVICE AND PRESERVING THE TRUE HISTORY OF THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES

## NEXT MUSTER

Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015, 6:30pm  
Colonial Heritage Club  
<http://colonialheritageclub.org/home.asp>  
6500 Arthur Hills Drive  
Williamsburg, VA 23188

**Guest Speaker:**

**Mr. John Sharrett III**  
Suffolk County, Virginia



***The North-South Skirmish Association***

**Meal Cost: \$17.00 Per Person –**  
(genuine Confederate currency gladly accepted –  
will reluctantly accept US \$5 notes)

**Honored Confederate Soldier:**  
**Private Peter Tribble Cowles**  
Company H (James City Troop)  
5<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry

**RSVP Required**

**Compatriots' Ladies & Guests Encouraged To Attend**

## FEBRUARY GUEST SPEAKER

**Mr. John Sharrett III**  
Suffolk County, Virginia

***The North-South Skirmish Association***

The N-SSA was founded in 1950 as an organization for people who have a love of the history of the War for Southern Independence; enjoy shooting the black powder weapons from that era; thrive on competition in musket, carbine, revolvers, early repeating arms, and artillery; and enjoy camping and camaraderie in a family-friendly environment. John will share with us his experiences over his incredible 50+ years of membership with the organization and will have a combination of original weapons as well as examples of those the N-SSA has approved for competition.

John A. Sharrett, III was born and raised in Portsmouth, moving to Suffolk in 1969. He currently lives in the Southeastern section of Suffolk on the North Carolina state line, next to the Great Dismal Swamp Wildlife Refuge. He is a charter member and commander of the Stonewall Camp #380 SCV, established in 1977, and is also a member of the Tom Smith Camp #1702 in Suffolk.

John has been a member of the North-South Skirmish Association since 1960, receiving his 50-year Membership Award in May 2009. He served as the N-SSA's National Commander for six years, from 1977 to 1982 and is the past-commander of the Dismal Swamp Rangers - a member organization of the N-SSA.

John received the Marion Joyner Watson Award from the Tom Smith Camp in November 2014 "for distinguished community service and preservation of our rich Southern heritage", "A recorder of history".

Bring a guest to our February meeting. Supper will be served at 6:30 and we will introduce John at 7:30. Our buffet costs \$17 per person. Non-members please contact Ken Parsons at 757-876-6967 or [kparsons4@cox.net](mailto:kparsons4@cox.net) to confirm reservations.

*- Lt. Commander Ed Engle*

# CAMP JOURNAL FOR LAST MUSTER

## Meeting:

Held 25 Jan. at 6:30PM at Colonial Heritage Club,  
James City Cty., Va., 33 attendees

Welcome given by Commander Jeff Toalson

## Invocation:

Given by Chaplain Fred Breeden

Pledge & Salute to the Flags  
Break for Supper

The SCV Charge read by Quartermaster Warren Raines  
Guest Introduction by Commander Jeff Toalson

## Ancestral Memorial Candle:

Read by Compatriot Charles Eugene Bush *in honor of Privates Elijah & Alexander Brown (Co. A 47<sup>th</sup> VA Inf.) & their brother Richard Brown (Stafford Light Artillery).* Their descendent, Jim O'Donnell, lit the candle.



## Program:

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander Ed Engle introduced our guest speaker, Mrs. Billie Earnest, who presented a very fascinating and detailed account of the life and times of Colonel Walter Taylor, Aide to General Robert E. Lee. Billie recounted Col. Taylor's childhood, upbringing, education and his wartime service. She also detailed in great depth how Col. Taylor was later a Senator in the Virginia General Assembly, and attorney for the Norfolk & Western Railway and afterwards the Virginian Railway.



*Mrs. Billie Earnest, along with 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander Ed Engle, Shows items from her display on the life and times of Col. Walter Taylor, Aide to General Lee.*

## Committee Reports and Announcements

### Treasurer's Report

Adjutant Ken Parsons indicated the Camp has approximately \$1,300 in the bank.

### Cemetery Report

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander Steve White reported that a larger group of volunteers participated in the Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> clean-up of Ft. Magruder. As of publication of this issue, Peach Park was also cleaned up on Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>. The next scheduled clean-up will tentatively be at Hockaday Cemetery on Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>.

### Support the Troops

Scott Summerfield reported that our overseas package shipments will be ending. The Camp is seeking options to support returning troops.

### Old & New Business

1. Williamsburg Civil War Round Table President and FOC Bill Miller, guest at our meeting, announced that Colonial Williamsburg will present a film, "Civil War Ironclads": from their Electronic Field Trip Series Films:

<http://wcwrt.org/news/news.htm>

The presentation is on 17 Feb. at 7PM in the Williamsburg Regional Library Theatre.

2. The WCWRT donated \$350 and the UDC donated \$150 towards our Col. Allen Scholarship.
3. Our Outstanding Camp submission is being prepared.
4. The Virginia Division SCV Convention will be held 17-19 Apr. in Colonial Heights.
5. The National SCV Convention will be held 15-19 July in Richmond. On 15 July, the Dr. Rufus Weaver monument will be dedicated in Hollywood Cemetery.
6. Dr. Anna Holloway will be our guest speaker in April.

### Trivia Question

Who did both Confederate and Yankee soldiers call The "graybacks"?

- A. Lice (also an offensive Yankee slang term for Confederate soldiers).

### Book Raffle

\$73 was donated to the Camp Treasury for the raffle of the three donations:

"Empire of the Owls" by Bo Traywick,  
"In the Presence of Mine Enemies" by Edward Ayers,  
and "Divided We Fought" edited by David Donald

### "Dixie"

Led by Compatriot Bill Young.

### Benediction

Given by Chaplain Fred Breeden.

### Adjournment

8:45PM.



# WCWRT AND UDC DONATE TO THE COL. ALLEN SCHOLARSHIP



*Williamsburg Civil War Round Table President and FOC Bill Miller (l.) and Linda Lightfoot, UDC and longtime FOC (c.) present Commander Jeff Toalson (r.) with donations for the Camp's Col. Allen Scholarship.*



## CAMP OFFICERS

- Commander** Jeff Toalson  
[troon24@cox.net](mailto:troon24@cox.net)
- Adjutant** Ken Parsons  
[kparsons4@cox.net](mailto:kparsons4@cox.net)
- 1st Lt. Commander** Ed Engle  
[ece44@cox.net](mailto:ece44@cox.net)
- 2nd Lt. Commander** Steve White  
[garrettsgrocery@netzero.com](mailto:garrettsgrocery@netzero.com)
- Historian/Genealogist** Fred Boelt  
[fwb@widomaker.com](mailto:fwb@widomaker.com)
- Archivist/Editor** Jim Swords  
[james.swords@cox.net](mailto:james.swords@cox.net)
- Quartermaster** Warren Raines  
[warrenandpaula@verizon.net](mailto:warrenandpaula@verizon.net)
- Chaplain** Fred Breeden  
[flbreeden@yahoo.com](mailto:flbreeden@yahoo.com)

## HONOR YOUR ANCESTOR

In 2014 we lit the candle and honored nine of our ancestors. Seven of those folks were relatives of Camp members. We would like to honor more ancestors of Camp 2095 Compatriots. Contact Jeff Toalson at [troon24@cox.net](mailto:troon24@cox.net) with your ancestor's name, rank, unit, and any other key information like county and state where they lived in 1860.

## UPCOMING SPEAKERS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND INVITE YOUR GUESTS

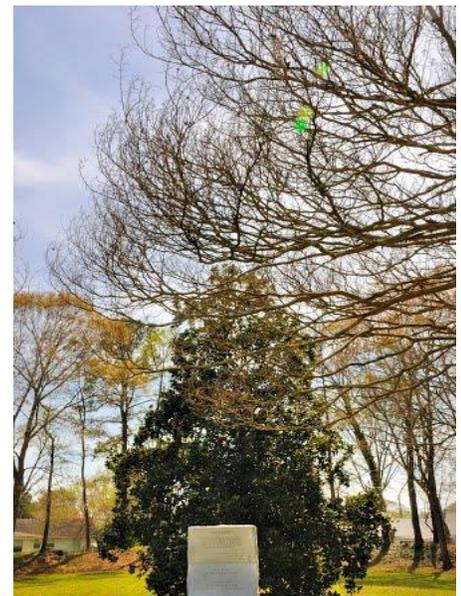
- March 25<sup>th</sup> -**  
**Mr. James Flanagan**  
"The Battle of Kelly's Ford"
- April 22<sup>nd</sup> -**  
**Dr. Anna Holloway**  
"Naval Achievements in Hampton Roads during the WBTS"
- June 24<sup>th</sup> -**  
**Mr. Eric Richardson**  
"Brig. General Stand Watie's War in the West"



# CAMP PICTORIAL



Our January 31<sup>st</sup> Peach Park Clean-up Crew (l-r): Ken Parsons, Tim Norman and Steve White. Not pictured Jeff Toalson and Fred Boelt.



Our January 10<sup>th</sup> Ft. Magruder Clean-up Crew (l-r): Ken Parsons, Harry Opel, Steve White, Paul Huelskamp, Warren Raines, Scott Summerfield, Joli Huelskamp, Midnight, and Jeff Toalson (not pictured).

# CONFEDERATE GRAVESITES

(Contributed by Historian/Genealogist Compatriot Fred Boelt)

Peter M. Van Name was born on April 14, 1834, (or 1836) in New York. So far, we have not discovered where he was born in New York; city or state? Census records give the 1834 date while his tombstone carries the 1836 date. The other mystery is whether his first name was Peter or Paul? Military records and census records through 1900 list him as Peter; however, his tombstone gives his name as Paul. And his wife's obituary stated that she was the widow of Captain Pauley Van Name. So, Peter or Paul, here is a little more of his story.

The first evidence of his existence in Virginia appeared in the 1860 census. P. N. Van Name, age 25; Davis Van Name, age 23; and Abraham Van Name, age 50; were enumerated in the Halfway House area of York County. All three men were listed as New York natives and sailors. They were living in the household of Levin Busic, his wife and children. Busic was a native of Maryland and also a sailor. This household was enumerated in close order with that of Thomas W. Whitaker, owner of two large tracts of land and of a mill bearing his name. It will be remembered that the Whitaker House was commandeered and used by Major General William F. Smith as his headquarters during McClellan's march toward Richmond in May 1862.

While I shy away from my own family history, I will say that Whitaker was my great, great grandfather, and that my grandfather, Whitaker's grandson, had a very good memory. On many occasions, he stated that Thomas Whitaker owned a sailing vessel before the war that plied the waters to places like Norfolk and Baltimore. His farms bordered King's Creek which was navigable back then, and his mill was located at the creek headwaters that had been dammed up to power the mill. Based on the proximity of all of this, could the Van Names and Busic have been the crew for Whitaker's ship? Speculative at best, but I thought I would mention this as a possibility.

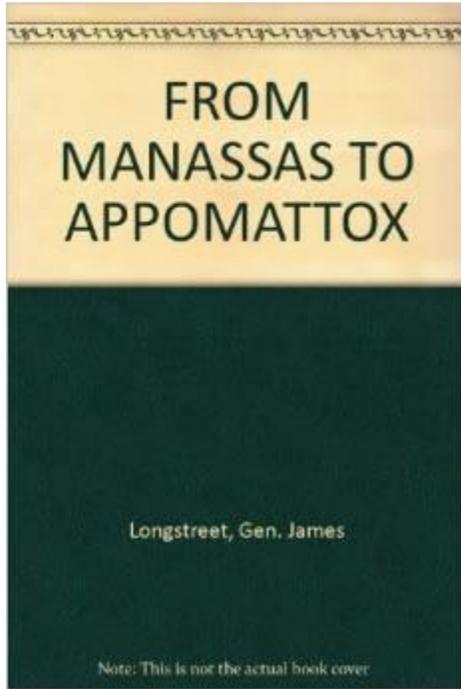
Peter Van Name enlisted as a private in Company G, 32<sup>nd</sup> Virginia Infantry, on May 13, 1861,

in Williamsburg. This unit became Company K, 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment, Virginia Artillery, in August. He was elected 5<sup>th</sup> Sergeant on March 10, 1862. After his first year of service, he continued to serve under the Conscription Act, and on the 10<sup>th</sup> of May, he was detailed to the Quartermaster Corps and became a sergeant in July. He was furloughed in early 1863. He was listed as a patient in Chimborazo Hospital #2 starting November 29, 1863, suffering from Bronchitis, and was transferred to Petersburg on December 8<sup>th</sup>. He returned to duty on February 18, 1864. He was again hospitalized in Richmond from May 23<sup>rd</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>, and there is not much else in his service records until he was paroled at Burkeville Junction, sometime between April 14 and 17, 1865.

By the 1870 census, Peter M. Van Name and his wife Henrietta were living in the Nelson District of York County. Henrietta's birth place was listed as Virginia and Peter's occupation was listed as oyster dealer. Again in the 1880 census, they were enumerated in the same area and his occupation was listed as oyster merchant. This continued in the 1900 census where he was listed as an oyster planter. Perhaps it is fair to say that he spent his life as a waterman. There is no indication that this couple had children.

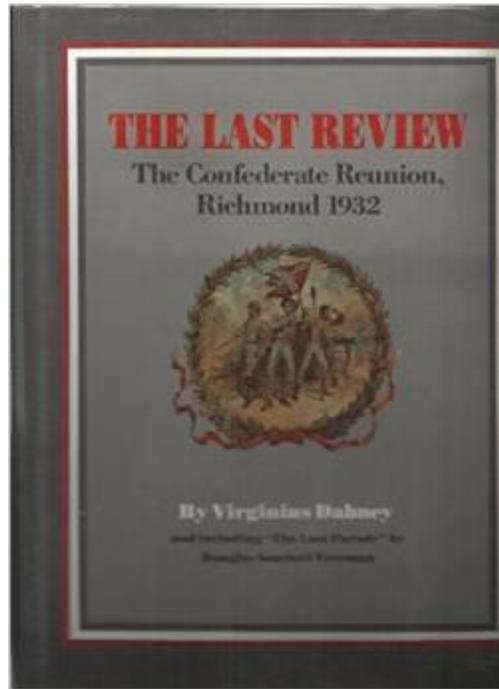
Peter Van Name died on February 28, 1901, at his home "Bellfield" in York County. His obituary in the Richmond Dispatch clearly recorded his name as Peter. It stated that he was buried in Cedar Grove Cemetery, and that the Magruder-Ewell Camp, Confederate Veterans, attended the funeral in a body. So how did he become "Paul" on his tombstone? Perhaps this was just a monument company error. But when his wife, Henrietta, died in 1908, her obituary stated that she was the widow of Pauley Van Name. At any rate, whether he was Peter or whether he was Paul, he was a native New Yorker who took up arms in defense of his adopted home, and lived out his life in Virginia.

# FEBRUARY BOOK RAFFLE



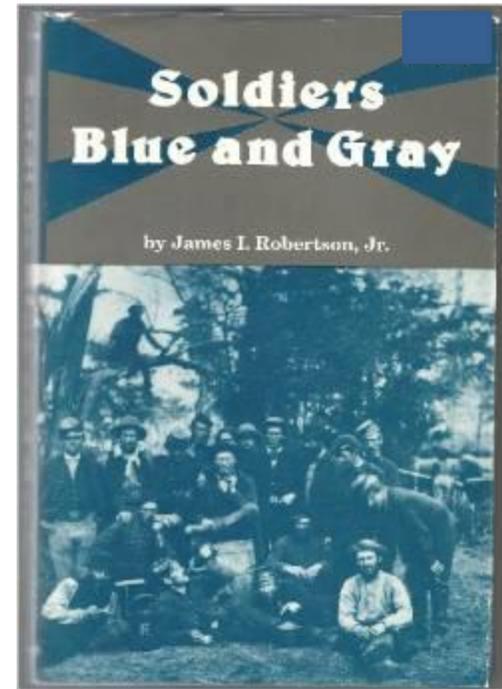
**"From Manassas to Appomattox"**  
 Gen. James Longstreet, CSA  
 Konecky & Konecky, Old Saybrook, CT  
 ISBN 0-914427-69-5

Just a few years before his death, Longstreet finally published his crucial memoirs. Longstreet wrote it to respond to his own critics and because Lee himself didn't write any.



**"The Last Review: The Confederate Reunion 1932"** Virginius Dabney,  
 Algonquin Books, 1984

This book contains Dabney's memoir-essay, an album of many fine photographs, and a reproduction of the June 1932 issue of Richmond Magazine that served as the program for the reunion.



**"Soldiers Blue & Grey"** James I. Robertson Jr., USC Press, 1988

This book uses quotations from diaries and letters of the period to bring to life such topics as life in camp, prisoners of war, and medical conditions, while covering the point of view of both Union and Confederate soldiers.

## FEBRUARY TRIVIA QUESTION:

Which State sent 39 regiments to fight in the Siege of Vicksburg (17 for the Confederacy and 22 for the Union)?



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