



# James City Cavalry Picket Lines



July 2020 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, July 22<sup>th</sup>, 2020, 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: \$17.00 Per Person**

You must call or email Jeff Toalson (757) 220-0131 or [troon24@cox.net](mailto:troon24@cox.net) to make a dinner reservation. Attendees without a reservation are welcome to attend the meeting but may not receive a dinner.

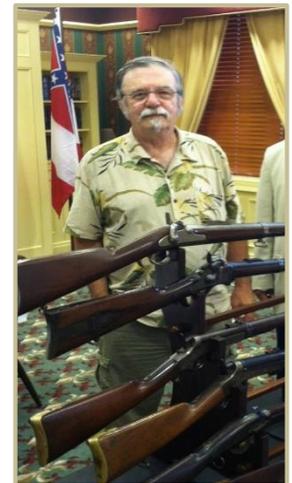
JCC Web Site: <http://www.jamescitycavalry.org>

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)

## July Guest Speaker

Larry Floyd WBTS  
Firearms Collector

*“Popular  
Firearms of  
Sailors &  
Marines of the  
WBTS”*



Compatriot Larry Floyd, of the Tom Smith Camp, will be joining us to discuss weapons of the WBTS. In 2012 he discussed popular hand guns and in 2014 he discussed a variety of rifles and carbines. All of the weapons were from his personal vintage firearms collection. This month he will be speaking on popular naval firearms used by sailors and marines. Larry is one of our most popular speakers.

Larry is a native of Chesapeake, Virginia. He served in the Virginia State Police from 1962-1995. He is a 55 year member of the North-South Skirmish Association and began his interest in and collection of weapons of the WBTS in 1960.

This meeting is a great opportunity to bring a friend or neighbor who is interested in weapons of the 1860s. If you have a period firearm that you would like to know more about bring it along and Larry will share his knowledge about the weapon and perhaps even provide you an estimate of its value.

# Camp Journal for Last Muster

## Meeting:

Held on the 24<sup>th</sup> of June at 6:30 PM at Colonial Heritage Club House,  
James City County., Va., 29 attendees

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

## Blessing:

Given by 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Cmdr. Toalson

Break for Supper

The SCV Charge read by Quartermaster Joel Goodwin

Welcome given by Commander Jerry Thompson

## Program:

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander Jeff Toalson introduced the evening's guest  
speaker: Carson Hudson.

Mr. Hudson presented "*Stories of Williamsburg during the WBTS*",  
an in-depth presentation on wartime facts and events in the local  
area.



1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Cmdr. Toalson and Mr. Hudson

## Committee Reports and Announcements:

### Cemetery Report

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander Steve White reported on visitor  
comments logged at Peach Park.

### Old & New Business

- Monuments – Adj. Parsons
- Camp Dues – Adj. Parsons
- Contributions to the Battlefield land purchase – Adj. Parsons

### Book Raffle

A copy of *Defend This Old Town* was awarded in a free  
raffle.

### Benediction

Given by Commander Thompson

### Adjournment

8:50 PM



## Camp Officers



<b>Commander</b>	Jerry Thompson <a href="mailto:jerrythompson@yahoo.com">jerrythompson@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Adjutant/Treasurer</b>	Ken Parsons <a href="mailto:kparsons320@gmail.com">kparsons320@gmail.com</a>
<b>1st Lt. Commander (interim)</b>	Jeff Toalson <a href="mailto:troon24@cox.net">troon24@cox.net</a>
<b>2nd Lt. Commander</b>	Steve White <a href="mailto:garrettsgrocery@gmail.com">garrettsgrocery@gmail.com</a>
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## Commander's Comments

I would like to thank the C. H. C. C. for the great job they did creating a safe environment for us to have our June meeting. Social distancing at tables, masks and plated meals allowed us to have a meeting after three months off. We had 27 attending and hopefully a few more folks will feel comfortable joining us for this month's meeting.

Carson Hudson gave a wonderful talk full of interesting stories and tidbits about Williamsburg during the WBTS. We all gained knowledge. This month our good friend Larry Floyd will bring a selection of his vintage weapons and educate us on pistols and rifles of the Civil War navies.

We again ask you to bring a check to pay for your meal so we can avoid handling monies.

We serve in their memory,

Jerry Thompson

Back in 2012, Larry Floyd drew a crowd pre and post talk with people asking questions and looking at his collection.



# Confederate Gravesites

(Contributed by Compatriot Fred Boelt)

Recently, a friend located the article transcribed below in a Richmond newspaper:

“BOB COTTON’S REMAINS.

How A Brave Confederate Scout Was Shot To Death

Magruder Camp, of Williamsburg, Causes the Removal of the Ashes of a Con(*federate*) Lost Texas Soldier.

WILLIAMSBURG, VA. Dec 8, - Special

At a recent meeting of Magruder-Ewell Camp, Confederate Veterans, it was determined to exhume the remains of the famous Confederate scout, “Bob Cotton,” buried in the county a few miles from here and bring them to Cedar Grove cemetery for reinterment.

Accordingly, a committee of the Camp consisting of Comrades R. B. Servant and M. F. Burke, repaired to Kelton [present day Lightfoot] and thence to the lonely mound that marks the resting place of all that was mortal of this defender of southern rights. They found, of course, nothing but bones, but some parts of his clothing was still preserved. Cotton was a member of Company D, Texas Infantry, and was assigned duty as chief of scouts on the upper Peninsular in 1863. He was daring and reckless, and this later characteristic caused his untimely end. He was always on the alert. On the morning of March 4, 1864, he learned of the approach of a squadron of Federal cavalry, and, following them, he found they had entered a farm, and on looking up to the house he saw a horse and buggy, which the federal commanding officer had brought out from Williamsburg. Seeing an opportunity to capture the horse, he approached the house and got into the buggy and drove off, he being at the time unarmed. The soldiers gave chase, and soon overtook him, shooting as they neared him. They were greatly rejoiced at his capture, and when the officer arrived, they at once shot him to death. His remains were turned over to the neighbors, who gave them as decent a burial as the times and circumstances would permit.

There are those now living who bear testimony in his daring. It is said his daughter now resides in Texas, and last summer for the first time heard of her father’s fate.

It is hoped that a suitable memorial will be placed above his grave to let future generations know the virtues of this intrepid soldier.”(*The Times* (Richmond, VA.). December 9, 1894. Page 2)

Where did the remains of this Confederate scout end up? There is no indication in the Cedar Grove records that he was reinterred there. As the article attests, there was little left of Bob Cotton to move. Perhaps, he was reinterred in the Confederate section of the cemetery and the memorial was never accomplished.

His true identity is also sketchy. There was a Robert Cotton, age 29, living in Huntsville, Waller County, Texas in 1860. He was married, had a son and a daughter, and was employed as a grocer. Men from this area enlisted in Company D, 5<sup>th</sup> Texas Infantry, and these men served in Virginia in 1862-1864.

Whoever he was, Bob Cotton’s bravery was still known thirty years after his untimely death, and an effort was made to honor his service to the Confederacy.

# Key Williamsburg Battlefield Tract Saved

(Contributed by 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Cmdr. Toalson)

To obtain the key 29 acre site that includes the 'Ravine' the American Battlefield Trust needed to raise \$12,500 in donations. The matching funds from various grants would multiply that money to the \$2,743,000 required for the purchase. **Those monies have been raised.**

James City Cavalry Camp 2095 deserves a battle star on our flag for raising over 16.28% of the total. **We raised \$2,035.** 28 Compatriots donated \$1,165 with their dues, 6 Compatriots donated \$620 direct to the on-line site, and the Camp added \$250 to reach that total.

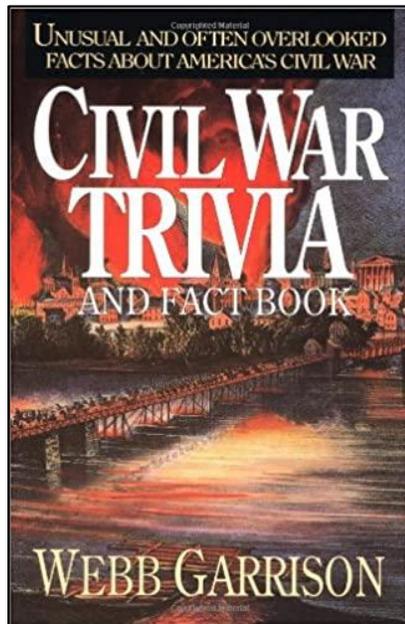
This land is basically in front of redoubts 2 through 5 and was heavily contested by Confederate regiments commanded by A. P. Hill, Pickett, Wilcox and Anderson. They were primarily engaged with the Union regiments commanded by Hooker, Kearny and Couch. They drove the Union forces over to the triangle of land the Williamsburg Battlefield Assn. recently acquired out in front of Ft. Magruder. Then the arrival of Couch's men drove them back to the ravine and back to the line of redoubts.

This was the most intense and bloodiest fighting of the battle of Williamsburg. See the map of this key area that was in our June issue.



**Gen. Phil Kearny near the Ravine**  
By A.R. Waud

# July Book Raffle



"Civil War Trivia and Fact Book"  
by Webb Garrison

As we did last month (to reduce paper money transactions) we will have one free book raffle open to all meeting attendees.

## July Trivia Question

Who successfully avoided being drafted into the Confederate Army due to a close family relation?

Answer to last month's question: The 20" Rodman gun could fire a solid shot round 8,001 yards.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rodman\\_gun](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rodman_gun)

## Williamsburg Civil War Round Table



<http://www.wcwrt.org>

The round table is in recess until September.