

February 2010

Williamsburg, Virginia

**Last Meeting:** Our last meeting had 30 in attendance. Our program was presented by Compatriot John Sharrett who gave a most informative presentation on “Confederate Monuments in the Richmond and surrounding area.”



John Sharrett and Commander Don Woolridge

**Next Meeting:** Our next meeting will be at "Hog Wild Smokehouse Restaurant" located at 8864 Richmond Road, Toano, VA 23168 [www.hogwildsmokehouse.com](http://www.hogwildsmokehouse.com) on **February 24th at 7pm.** Our Speaker will be **Mr. Dan Beasley** - Mr. Beasley is with the Civil War Center at Historic Tredegar. He will give a historic presentation on "Richmond Civil War Prisons."

**Executive Committee Meeting:** The Camp Executive Committee met on February 17, 2010 at “Hog Wild Smokehouse.” Members present were; Don Woolridge, Ken Parsons, Fred Breeden, Ed Truslow, Jeff Toalson, Jerry White, Steve White, Sparky Harcourt and David Ware. Items on the agenda were;

- Cemetery Flags
- Outstanding Camp Award Documentation
- Virginia Division Convention April 2010
- Support our Troops Project
- Confederate Remembrance Day 2010-2012 Planning

**Commander Don Woolridge:**

I hope this newsletter finds everyone well and starting to thaw out from all the recent snow and cold weather. I had occasion to visit Fort Magruder this past Monday and I must say the Fort looks better than it has in many years. The clean-up projects have already made remarkable improvements to the overall appearance. The new First National Flag on the re-located flag pole definitely complements the fort and is now a focal point. Compatriots should be proud of the work completed thus far and the results should give energy and enthusiasm to future projects. Our work details are a great way to honor our ancestors and preserve their heritage in the community. All Compatriots and friends of the SCV should make every effort to come out for future projects and enjoy the good feeling our work gives to the soul! The work definitely has not gone un-noticed. The Virginia Gazette published a citizen thank you recently in the “Last Word” commending the visible improvements to the fort.

The Camp has a prestigious list of speakers for the first half of the year. Our programs have proven to be very educational with a variety of topics from the War Between the States. Historical information and the education of our membership, friends and the community is an important aspect of preserving our Confederate heritage. Too many times our heritage is attacked and attempts are made to cast negative views, especially with our beloved “Battle Flag.” As compatriots we know the true meaning of our flags and the sacrifice that our ancestors made during the fight for what they believed in. We should continue to stand strong and educate the public as well as ourselves what the “Sons of Confederate Veterans” stand for. It is the memory of the brave soldiers, their families and friends that stood behind them during the war fought between northern and southern states from 1861 to 1865, in which the Confederacy sought to establish itself as a separate nation. The war grew out of deep-seated differences between the social structure and economy of North and South, and generations of political maneuvers had been unable to overcome these differences.

With out a doubt we live in the best nation in the world and we should honor and cherish that privilege. It matters not who won the War Between the States but that we continue to preserve of our Confederate Heritage!

Deo Vindice!

### **Adjutant Ken Parsons:**

Lee Ware has been approved for membership and will be inducted into the Camp in the near future. Lee's ancestor was William Henry Ware an early enlistee in the Charles City Troop, 3rd Virginia Cavalry where he remained active until paroled in May, 1863. Like all the rest of the "Boys" he had trouble with diarrhea throughout his enlistment but apparently was never severely wounded. Lee and his wife were invited to our Camp picnic at Fred Boelt's house last spring and was recruited there. Lee will be our 39th member. Inviting guest like this will increase our membership and our standing in the community. We need to do this more often.

John Shirley's two sons (Trevor and Bryce) have applied for membership and I expect to have them approved before our next meeting. Their ancestor was Great, Great, Great Grand Father, John D. Belfield, was a 1st. Lt. in the 9th Virginia Cavalry out of Richmond County. They are, of course, our youngest members and we are overjoyed to have these young men. Their membership indicates how interesting our speakers and meetings are. If you know of other young men that are eligible, please encourage them to join our ranks.

With the addition of these young men, I am reminded of something that Winston Churchill reportedly said, "The West is the hope of the world; and America is the hope of the West" The SCV maintains," The South is the hope of America, and the SCV is the hope of the South" I believe very strongly the youth of today is the hope of the SCV, we must bring them into our ranks and fill them with the truth and zeal of our forefathers. After all, we all know our time remaining on this earth gets shorter every day. Recruit daily!

### **Support Our Troops**

Don't forget to bring the things needed for the Troops to the meetings. Stop by the Dollar Store on your way to the meetings and you will find many of the items on our list that are inexpensive and easily packaged for shipment. Better yet, pass our list around your neighborhood.

Items collected will be prepared for shipment by the end of each month.

My church is going to collect items throughout the month of April which should make a large shipment. What about your church doing the same? I am available to speak at anyone's church about how this project works.

### **Past Commander David Ware: "The Cause for Which We Fought"**

#### **Epilogue 2**

The expression "Southern chivalry" has been occurring in discussion of the South for over two hundred years. Examination will show that at the time of the War to Prevent Southern Independence, there survived in the South enough of the chivalric tradition to decide prevailing views on critical questions not the least of which is the question of "total war." Following the dissolution of Charlemagne's empire, cruelty, pillage, plunder and savage anarchy so distressed humanity that there arose, based on the Christian religion, a class of knights pledged to make might serve right. Out of this spirit came the mythical Knights of the Round Table. Their vow

required them “to speak the truth, to succor the helpless and never to turn back from an enemy.” Chivalry was the form of self-discipline which produced Western Civilization.

In the South, the order of chivalry took the form of the gentlemen class. His word could not be questioned and his highly touchy sense of honor often called for the ritual of the duel. A dueling code published in New Orleans stated that “among the refined, virtue with women and honor with men are more valuable than life—are more worthy of the last defense. “ Duelling was widely prevalent in the antebellum South and was regarded as a token of social superiority. The North with its materialistic puritan outlook was opposed to dueling and expressed this sentiment with anti-dueling laws. Englishman Thomas Hamilton after a journey covering much of the United States formed the impression that “to fight a duel in the New England states would, under almost any circumstance, be disgraceful. To refuse a challenge, to tolerate even an insinuation derogatory to personal honor, would be considered equally so in the South.” The duel was reserved for gentlemen as the tournament had been reserved for knights. It was a general rule that a gentleman could not fight one whom he could not invite to his house.

Behind the code and attitude of Chivalry is the source of the deep division between savage fighting whose end is the destruction and annihilation of the enemy and “honorable combat,” which has the form and purpose of a ritual. Chivalry assumed warfare to be inevitable but civilized people would conduct it as they conduct all else, with self control.

After First Manassas, some southerners were heard to express the opinion that the war must stop because the question of manhood between the North and South had been decided and nothing else was at issue. It is related that during the middle part of the war, a Southern inventor carried Jefferson Davis an explosive device disguised as a large lump of coal. His plan was to distribute them to the fuel yards of Union naval stations. Davis dismissed the scheme with indignation as “an unjustifiable mode of warfare.” After General John B. Gordon had captured York, Pennsylvania, he reassured a group of frightened ladies by promising the “the head of any soldier under my command who destroyed private property, disturbed the repose of a single home, or insulted a woman.” Lee, of course, also issued similar orders. When Sheridan and Sherman began their systematic ravaging and punishing of civilians, it seemed to the South that one of the fundamental supports of civilization was destroyed and that warfare was being thrown back to the barbarian mode from which Christianity and chivalry had rescued in the Middle Ages. Against Union Generals like McClellan, Grant, Meade and Thomas, Southerners had little complaint. These men had fought honorably according to the rules of the game. Against Sheridan who had devastated the Shenandoah Valley so that “a crow flying across it would have to carry his provisions,” and against Sherman saying that he would “make Georgia howl,” and that he would “bring every Southern woman to the washtub,” words could not describe the indignation. The side which most disregarded the rules of chivalric combat won the War to Prevent Southern Independence and in so doing pioneered a field known as “total war” whose contribution to civilization is dubious. German generals were careful students of the American Civil War. Dr. Moritz Busch in his *Bismarck: Some Secret Pages of His History* tells the story that General Sheridan attended a banquet given by the Chancellor Bismarck in 1870. Sheridan, who had been with the Prussian staff as an unofficial observer, remarked that he favored treating noncombatants with the utmost severity. He expressed that “the people must be left nothing but their eyes to weep with over the war.” From the military policies of Sherman and Sheridan, there is an easy step to the total war of the Nazis and an even easier step to the “shock and awe,” “carpet bombings” and sanctions posted against many nations by the imperialistic Yankee led government in our once great country today.

**1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander Jeff Toalson: Book Auctions:** Jeff will be conducting his book auction monthly and donating the proceeds to the Camp's general fund. This month's book will be; *General Lee's Army - From Victory to Collapse* by Joseph T. Glatthaar, 2008, hard cover, 472 pages.

## Honoring our Confederate Soldier – January

### Lt. Colonel David Pierson 3<sup>rd</sup> Louisiana Infantry

Born August 30, 1837 in Stewart County, Georgia. Attended Mt. Lebanon University, studied law, and passed the Louisiana bar exam in 1859. Enlisted on May 17, 1861 in New Orleans, LA at age 23.

Elected Captain of Company C (Winn Rifles) of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Louisiana Infantry. The unit was baptized in battle at Oak Hills (Wilson's Creek) and saw action at Pea Ridge, Corinth, Farmington and then the Regiment took 40% casualties at Iuka.

Wounded in the head by shrapnel and captured on September 19, 1862 at battle of Iuka. On October 18, 1862 he was onboard the steamer *Dacotah* awaiting exchange near Vicksburg. Granted 60 day convalescent leave after exchange.

November 5, 1862 promoted to Major. December 20 rejoined Co. C at Vicksburg. On January 20, 1863 from a Camp near Snyder's Mill, MS he wrote his father; "*We are still encamped on the Yazoo River about 14 miles from Vicksburg and decidedly in the muddiest place I have ever lived in. We have some few tents, but the majority of the Regiment are living as best they can under trees, board shelters, or in the ground . . . it is so cold as to freeze one away from the fire. . . We get pork, potatoes, butter and chickens from the farmers in the country at reasonable prices. . . .*"

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Louisiana held the Louisiana Redan (Fort Hill) section of the Vicksburg trenches. They were undermined and blown up twice (6/25 and 7/1). Both Union assaults repulsed. David was wounded in the chest in the 6/25 explosion. Captured July 4, 1863 at the surrender of Vicksburg, paroled July 8, 1863 and sent to Natchitoches for exchange which occurred in late 1864. August 22, 1863 promoted to Lt. Colonel

A March 25, 1865 letter to his father written from Shreveport, LA: "*Dear Pa – An inferior article of Cotton Cards are in the State Store at seventy-five dollars. The Quartermasters Dep has received a large amt of money lately, and I suppose we will be paid soon, I have only drawn one month's wages since I came here . . . I now begin to doubt the Govnm' will ever send money enough to this side of the river to pay off all . . . the soldiers. The best we can expect will be to draw one or two months . . . (They owe) me over fifteen hundred dollars which . . . would pay all my debts.*"

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Louisiana "disbanded, largely spontaneously on May 19/20, 1865." David was paroled on June 15, 1865. Postwar David practiced law in Winnfield, LA and then in 1868 he moved to

Natchitoches. Served as District Judge from 1876 to 1892. Retired 1892. David Pearson passed away from heart failure on September 28, 1900.

[Compiled Service Records CSA Soldiers, United Daughters of the Confederacy, Richmond, VA., Micro Copy 320, Roll 121; *Brothers in Gray*, Thomas Cutrer, Baton Rouge, 1997, by date & p. 1-12]

## **JAMES CITY COUNTY CONFEDERATE GRAVESITES** **By Historian/Genealogist Fred Boelt**

In addition to Southey Hankins whom we discussed in the January edition of *Picket Lines*, there are two other Hankins men who served in the Confederate Army buried at Olive Branch Christian Church. Alexander Hamilton Hankins, son of Nathaniel and Betsy Hankins was born on November 15, 1813. Several generations of the Hankins family had owned land along present day Croaker Road where the Kiskiack Golf Course is located. Alexander married Mary Brown Taylor in May 1838, and it was in this area that they lived and reared a large family. In 1861, Alexander owned 515 acres and was farming his own land in addition to his mother-in-law's 223 acres.

At age 47, Alexander Hankins answered the call to arms. He enlisted in Company H, 32nd Virginia Infantry on May 16, 1861 at Williamsburg. Hankins was elected captain of the company that became known as the James City Artillery. In September 1861, this unit was reassigned as Company B, 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment, Virginia Artillery. In October the unit was split between Harwood's Mill in York County and Young's Mill in Warwick County, sent to Ship Point on the Poquoson River in November, and after a brief stay in Yorktown, it was ordered back to Ship Point in mid December. Perhaps, deciding that he had had enough camp life, and with winter coming, Hankins resigned from the James City Artillery on December 21, 1861.

Alexander and Mary Hankins' oldest son, Winfield Scott Hankins was born in 1845 during the Mexican War and was named for the American general. The following was recorded in a Hankins family history: "When, after the opening of the War between the States, the General, who had been born in Virginia, refused to resign from the northern army and return to his state, as did most officers from the South, he became very unpopular in Virginia. Papa [Henley H. Hankins, Scott's younger brother] told me that his big brother cut out the Winfield from the family Bible and only left Scott." Scott Hankins enlisted in the James City Artillery on May 5, 1863 in his home county. He was absent due to illness in December 1863, but was present on all other rosters through December 1864.

Alexander's wife, Mary, died in February 1865 shortly after having given birth to triplets. The 1870 census listed Alexander's occupation as a farmer. Several of his children were living with him and his son, Scott's occupation was listed as a clerk in a store. By 1880, Alexander had sold his home to his cousin, Southey Hankins, and was living in Lightfoot next door to his brother-in-law, Henley Lightfoot Taylor. Alex's son Langdon Hankins was living with him and running a store in Lightfoot. Scott Hankins had remained on the old farm and was farming with his cousin, Southey Hankins, in 1880.

Scott Hankins died in 1892 and was buried in the Hankins family cemetery on their old home place. Several generations of the family had been buried there over the years. Alexander Hankins

died on July 25, 1899, and was also buried in the family cemetery. When Interstate 64 was being laid out, it was determined that this road would go through the cemetery. Consequently, the family had all of the graves moved to Olive Branch Christian Church.

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander Steve White**

### **Current Cemetery and Camp Projects: Next Clean-up Project**

Fort Magruder, Penniman Road – **February 20, 1:00 PM**

- Winter maintenance
- Tools needed are; chainsaws, loppers, weed-eaters and gloves. Trash bags will be provided.

**Newsletter:** "In an effort to help save on the cost of the newsletter, you can now have it e-mailed to you in an adobe format. E-mail Commander Don Woolridge at [dsw317@earthlink.net](mailto:dsw317@earthlink.net) to be added to this list." Newsletters are also posted on the website for your convenience.

**Visit our website at:** <http://www.jamescitycavalry.org>

### **Camp Officers**

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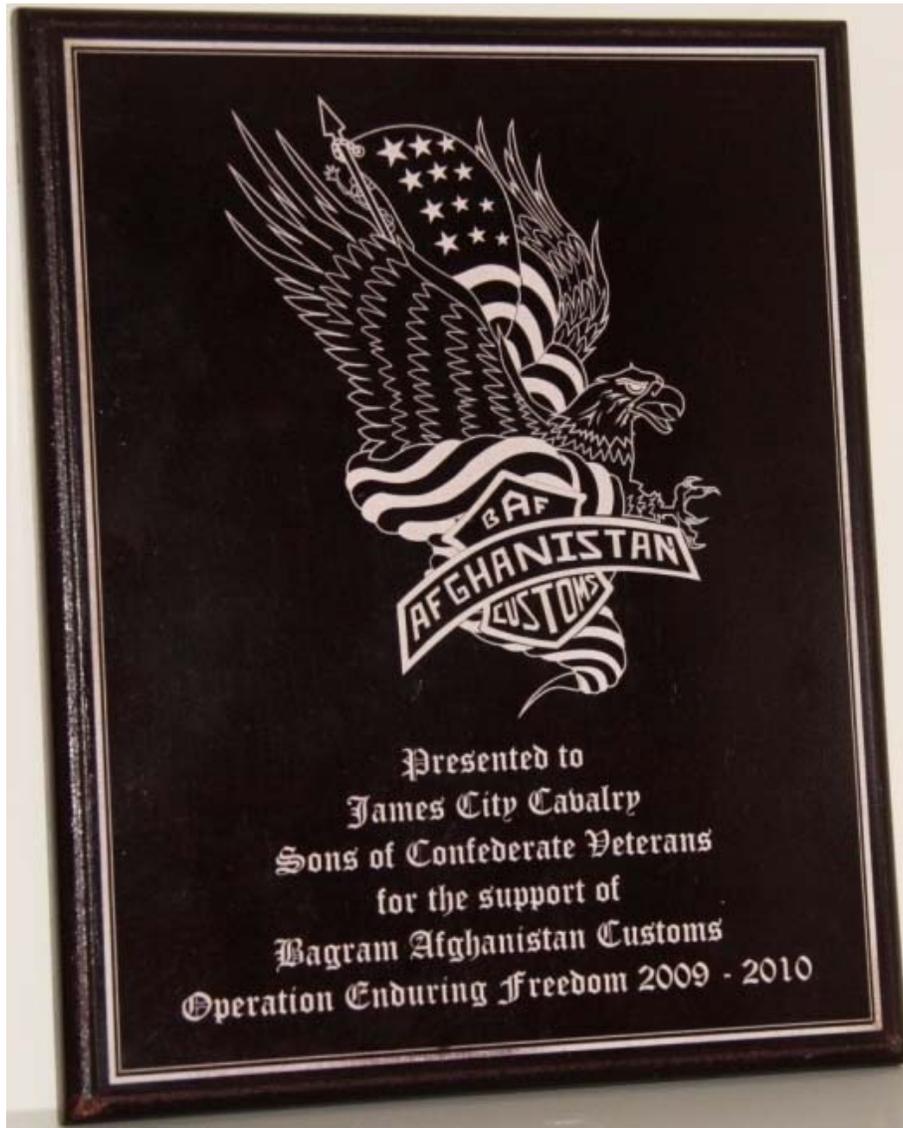
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**This plaque was presented to the Camp by The 670<sup>th</sup> MP Company stationed in Bagram, Afghanistan for our efforts in the “Support for the Troops Project.” The soldiers were most appreciative of the packages received over the past few months. We experienced great success with this project and we will continue to support our Troops overseas.**

### **Thought for the Month**

**"If I ever disown, repudiate, or apologize for the Cause for which Lee fought and Jackson died, let the lightning's of Heaven rend me, and the scorn of all good men and true women be my portion. Sun, moon, and stars, all fall on me when I cease to love the Confederacy. 'Tis the Cause, not the fate of the Cause, that is glorious!"**

**Major R. E. Wilson, CSA**



# James City Cavalry Camp # 2095

Proudly presents:

## RICHMOND SOUTHERN TOUR

THE WAR THAT PREVENTED SOUTHERN INDEPENDENCE - REAL STORY

TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2010

Join us on our Southern history tour with historian Emily King, a member of the Civil War Roundtable. We will visit Hollywood Cemetery and the graves of President Jefferson Davis and Generals J.E.B. Stuart and George Pickett. Then on to Battle Abbey, the site of Chimborazo Hospital, Shockoe Cemetery where the Jewish Confederate veterans are buried, the White House of the Confederacy and the Museum of the Confederacy. We will drive along Monument Avenue and stop for luncheon at the Colony Club Restaurant.

\$68 per person

INCLUDES: transportation, historian guide, all admissions, luncheon and driver tip  
Tour departs from Colonial Town Shopping Center at 6967 Richmond Road at 9 am  
SHARP!!!!!!

Your check is your firm reservation. Send the form below with check made out to:  
Shepard Travel to 6141 Sylvan Street, Norfolk, VA 23508. For information call  
757-423-8470. There is interest in this tour from all Hampton roads cities-so be  
quick to claim your seat.

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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE(S) \_\_\_\_\_



## CAMP JOURNAL

January 27, 2010

- **Meeting:** Held 7:00 PM at Hog Wild, James City County, VA
  - 30 attendees
  - Welcome given by Commander Don Woolridge
  - Invocation: given by Chaplin Fred Breeden
    - Historic passage on Jews in the Confederate Army
  - Pledge and Salute to the Flags: US flag pledge, Virginia flag salute, and CS flag salute by Camp members
  - The Charge: was read by Quarter Master Jerry White
  - Recognition of guests (7) and Friend of the SCV (2) by Commander Woolridge
  - Ancestral Memorial Candle: Lt Col David Pearson, Company "C", 3<sup>rd</sup> Louisiana Infantry. Service Record was read by Compatriot Charles Bush
  
- **Meeting Break:** 7:00 to 7:30
  - Adjutant/Treasurer's Report: \$Approximately \$974
  
- **Announcements:**
  - Commander will appoint a Committee to develop the Best Camp Documentation for upcoming Virginia Division meeting
    - (*Fred Boelt, Jeff Toalson, and Jerry White*)
  - Need photos for web site
  - Flags have been replaced at Peach park and Ft Magruder
  - Confederate Remembrance day is May 5<sup>th</sup>
  
  - **Upcoming events:**
    - Cemetery & Ft Magruder clean up-see Camp web site
    - 27-28- February End View Plantation reenactment
    - April 9- Virginia Division Convention, Lynchburg, VA
  
- **January Minutes:** Approved as published in February "*Picket Lines*"
  
- **Committee Reports:**
  - Cemetery Report: Compatriot Steve White reported on clean-up projects
  
- **Old Business:**
  - Support the Troops Project: Compatriot David Ware provided update on this important Camp project
    - Lt Commander Jeff Toalson provided hints on how to get your local community to assist the Camp in collecting items

- Bus Trip: Compatriot David Ware provided an update on the proposed May 4th bus trip to various historical points of interest. Cost expected to be \$65-\$70 per person, includes lunch
- **New Business:**
  - Camp book auction generated \$51
  - Motion made by Compatriot Willard Gilley to purchase 12x18 flags to be placed on graves
    - Seconded by Compatriot Robert Tuck
    - Motion carried
  - Norman Goodwin was inducted as a member into the Camp
  - Linda Lightfoot was inducted as a Friend of the SCV
- **Program:** Guest speaker John Sharrett III gave a very interesting presentation/slide show on Confederate Monuments located in and around the Richmond, VA area
- **Benediction:** Given by Friends of SCV member Bill Blizzard
- Adjourned at 900 P.M. Next meeting scheduled for 23 February 2010

Respectfully submitted,

*Robert H. Tuck*



Wiard Cannon