



# James City Cavalry Picket Lines



August 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, August 26<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)

## August Guest Speaker

Dr. Mallory Read

*“A History of  
Medical Education  
in the South”*



This tour of Southern medical history begins with the development of medical schools in the prosperous Antebellum states, the secession of students to join the Confederate service, Dr. Simon Baruch (an example of a fine Southern physician), medical colleges in the post-war South, and the Clifton Brooks Medical Research Fund of the SCV.

This is a topic we have never heard discussed in our history as a Camp. We have had the pleasure of having two previous talks by Dr. Read. He has spoken with us about “Abraham Lincoln & his struggles with syphilis” and “Savez Read & the Battle of Portland Harbor, Maine.”

Dr. Read was educated at the Medical College of Virginia, interned at Norfolk General, has been a practicing physician for over 35 years. He also served as an Asst. Professor of Emergency Medicine at Eastern Virginia Medical College. Mallory is a past Commander of the Norfolk Grays Camp #1549 and has served as the Virginia Division Surgeon, SCV.

# Camp Journal for Last Muster

## Meeting:

Held on July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 PM at Colonial Heritage Club House,  
James City County, Va., 22 attendees

Pledge & Salute to the Flags lead by Quartermaster Joel Goodwin

## 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:

Our scheduled speaker Larry Floyd unfortunately could not attend due to a personal injury. However, our own 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander Jeff Toalson provided an impromptu lecture on "Voices on the WBTS", a historical review of the development of his four books and the amazing personal stories within them.



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

## Committee Reports and Announcements:

### Cemetery Report

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander Steve White was not able to attend the meeting.

### Old & New Business

- Williamsburg City Council Meeting on Monument – Compatriot George Corbett

### Life Certificate Presentations

Jim Leach – present

James Wells – present

Bill Wallace – unable to attend

Philip Tarpley – unable to attend



Compatriot Leach, Adj. Parsons and Compatriot Wells

### Benediction

Given by Commander Thompson

### Adjournment

8:40 PM

# Confederate Gravesites

(Contributed by Compatriot Fred Boelt)

In the June 2015 edition of *Picket Lines*, we discussed the lives and service records of two half-brothers from James City County, John Wilmer Davis and Thomas Henry Davis. Further research has determined that four additional brothers of “the whole blood” with John Davis also served in our Confederate forces.

Lemuel Tyler Davis, son of Allen Davis and his first wife, Mary Ann Mahone, was born on March 22, 1837. Tyler, as he was known to his family and friends, was educated locally, attending the Williamsburg Military Academy for part of his training. After schooling was completed, Tyler began clerking in his brother, Benjamin A. Davis’s mercantile business. In the 1860 census, he was living with Benjamin and was continuing to clerk in his brother’s store. At some point after the census was taken, Tyler moved to Richmond and was engaged in the wholesale grocery business before the war.

Tyler Davis enlisted in Company H, 32<sup>nd</sup> Virginia Infantry, on May 16, 1861, in Williamsburg. The company was re-assigned as Company B, 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia Artillery (James City Artillery). He was promoted to 2<sup>nd</sup> lieutenant on December 2, 1861, was elected as 1<sup>st</sup> lieutenant on January 7, 1862; and was reelected on April 30, 1862. He was present on all rolls through December 1864.

Tyler Davis deserted on January 20, 1865. He entered Federal lines at Bermuda Hundred, took the oath on the 21<sup>st</sup> and was sent to Washington, DC. His parole papers stated that he was born in Williamsburg, was a resident of James City County, and had dark complexion, dark hair, and black eyes and was five feet, eight inches tall.

After the war, Tyler Davis returned to Williamsburg, and opened a dry goods business of his own. Around 1870, he married Celia Emily Perrin (1851-1873) of Hallton, Pennsylvania. Their first child, Genevra Perrin Davis was born there. In 1873, Celia Davis died of childbirth complications when a son was born.

Tyler Davis married his second wife, Harriet Virginia (Jennie) Russell on January 6, 1876. Jennie had been born in Maine in 1860. Her mother, Emily Banks, was a native of James City County and her father, Simon Pierre Russell, was from Maine. He had come to Virginia, married Emily, then the widow of William Knewstep, and settled in James City County in the 1850s. In 1859, the family moved to his home state of Maine and remained there throughout the war years. They returned to Virginia in 1865. Emily died in 1868, and Simon Russell died the following year leaving Jennie an orphan. She grew up in the care of George W. Garrett and his wife, Mary Jane.

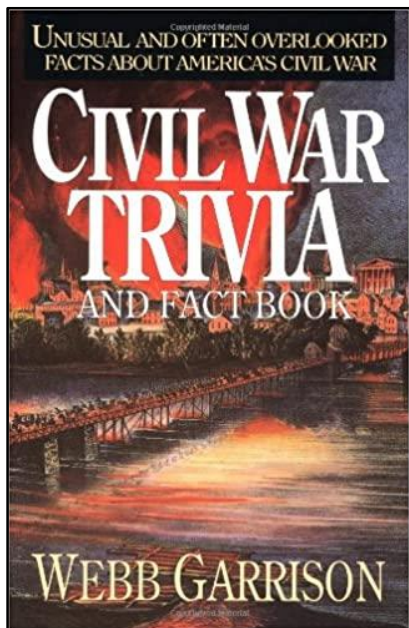
George Garrett was listed as an overseer in the 1860 census and as a farmer in the 1870 census. Based on the census listings, he and Mary Jane were living in the present day Lightfoot vicinity. An interesting aside has been found in Mary Jane’s obituary, “She will be remembered by many an old Confederate scout in James City county [sic] during the war, as she then resided at ‘War Hill,’ a well-known resort for the outposts of the Confederacy.” [*The Times* (Richmond). June 15, 1894. Page 5]. More stories await discovery!

Tyler and Jennie Davis were living in Williamsburg in 1880, and he continued working as a merchant. He was active in civic affairs, serving as president of the school board for a while. Davis purchased several properties along Duke of Gloucester Street, perhaps for investment purposes for most of the parcels were resold rather quickly. Tyler and Jennie Davis ultimately had three sons and three daughters.

In the early 1890s, the Davises sold their land in Virginia and moved to Harriman, Roane County, Tennessee, where Tyler re-established himself as a grocery merchant. Lemuel Tyler Davis died on October 30, 1902, in Harriman and was buried in Walnut Hill, the Harriman city cemetery. We will continue to chronicle the lives of other Davis brothers in the future.

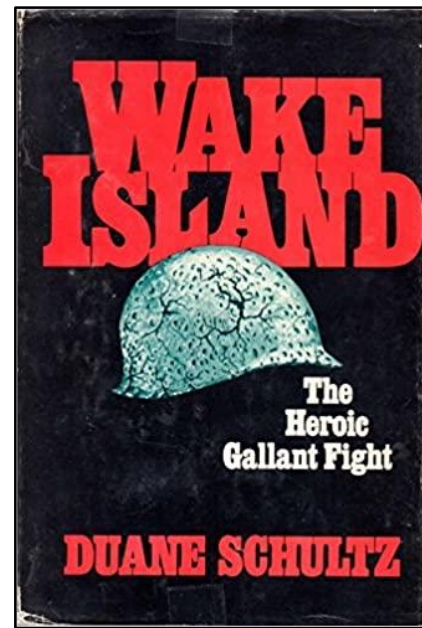


# August Book Raffle



“Civil War Trivia and Fact Book”  
by Webb Garrison

To reduce paper money transactions we will again have a free raffle open to all meeting attendees. Plus, there will be a bonus book raffled this month.



“Wake Island: The Heroic Gallant Fight”  
by Duane Schultz

## August Trivia Question

What Federal commander so despised newspaper reporters that he was said to foam at the mouth upon seeing one?

Answer to last August's question: Chang and Eng Bunker were Siamese twins and devoted Confederates. When Eng was picked to be drafted into the Union Army he was excused because Change was not also picked. See: <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/seven-obscure-facts-you-didnt-know-about-the-civil-war-178230/>

## Williamsburg Civil War Round Table

<http://www.wcwr.org>

The next scheduled meeting is September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020  
Chris Mackowski is scheduled to present:

“The Battle Of Spotsylvania's Bloody Angle”

