

July 2009

Williamsburg, Virginia

Last Meeting: Our last meeting had 26 in attendance. Our program was presented by Billie Earnest who gave a very detailed and enthusiastic talk on General George Pickett, the man and his wives. The presentation also included numerous photographs of General Pickett and his family before and after the “War of Northern Aggression”

Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be at "Hog Wild Smokehouse Restaurant" at 8864 Richmond Road, Toano, VA 23168 www.hogwildsmokehouse.com on July 22 at 7pm. Guest speaker will be our SCV Compatriot Henry Kidd, who is a Past Camp Commander, Virginia Division Commander and Army of Northern Virginia Commander. Henry is a nationally recognized historical artist, author and lecturer. He is also a reenactor with the 12th Virginia Infantry. His talk will be on his new book, "*Petersburg, War on the Doorsteps, an account of the Battle of the Crater*". Copies of the book will be available at the meeting. The cost of the book is \$25.00 including the tax. The James City Cavalry is pleased to welcome Henry as our July speaker and guest. Please visit Henry's website at www.henrykiddart.com Come and bring a guest, or even better, a future member!

Commander David Ware: “The Cause for Which We Fought”

Many New England settlers were religious dissenters. They were well-to-do members of the landowning or merchant class who had come to America because of the quarrel with the Established Church. They regarded education primarily as a means of training theological students in doctrines. In the South, the Colonists were dispossessed, poor, fleeing to Virginia or the Carolinas to better their fortunes, political refugees and adventurers of all sorts and after 1700 Germans and Scotch-Irish in increasing numbers. The Scotch-Irish were the first to establish classical schools in the South and had a great influence on Southern education. After the Revolution, the Anglican Church fell on disfavor and with it, lapsed the system prevailing in the South of importing tutors from England for the sons of wealthy planters. The South found a means of transmitting a good classical education to its people: the academy. This institution promoted and maintained Southern culture until the catastrophe of 1861-65 when most fell into ruin. Hickory Neck Church sometime after the Revolution became Hickory Neck Academy and survived until 1903. Compatriot Bert Geddy's father attended this school.

The academy drew into its net only those who could afford to pay tuition and agitation arose to provide free education. Today, it is mistakenly assumed that Thomas Jefferson was a parent of this agitation and thus a proponent of cookie cutter, one size fits all government schooling. Jefferson introduced a bill in 1779 to see “that those persons whom nature has endowed with genius and virtue should be rendered worthy to receive and guard the sacred deposit of the rights and liberties of their fellow citizens, and that they should be called to that charge without regard to wealth, birth, or other accidental condition or circumstance.....” In Jefferson's thinking democracy was not an ideal that stood alone. It would have to be secured by rigorous disciplines

or its public offices would be occupied by mediocrity and corruption (what we have now). In his view, two disciplines were indispensable to democracy: education to produce a class of qualified leaders, and widespread land ownership to assure stable communities, a tangible connection to the country and a permanent interest in its welfare. At a national convention of teachers in Harrisburg, PA, in August 1865 it was declared that the war had been “a war of education and patriotism against ignorance and barbarism.” The first Reconstruction Act divided the South into five military districts who put up corrupt governments controlled by carpetbaggers and robbed the state treasuries of more than three hundred millions and did nothing for education. To the old South, the idea of education was to develop the pupils’ mind so that he could master whatever subject he wished to take up and to enlarge his horizon by showing the relationship of this subject to the whole of human life. Today’s Northern, industrialized “education” system is one in which the interest of community is displaced with the interest of career, where success is measured in the number of graduates that can meet memorization skills by regurgitating data and government propaganda to a race of teachers who judge themselves, not by the influence they have on their students or communities, but by the number of publications, salary size and the status of where their careers have taken them thus far. Differences in how children would be educated were not in itself a reason for a bloody war, but points out the differences in culture that existed in 1860.

Adjutant Ken Parsons:

Compatriots, I’m so proud! We sent \$440.00 to the 13th mechanized cavalry as a donation for them to use in sending young boys and girls to the Sam Davis Camp in Georgia. I can't tell you how proud I am of our camp to be able to do this!

We are living up to the charge of General S. D. Lee that we hear at every meeting. Some would think this charge is outdated and antiquated but our action makes it important for now and part of our history. Gen Lee said, "Remember, it is our duty to see to it that the true history of the South is presented to future generations." We're doing our part!

I called Mike Armistead, the commander, and he was extremely grateful for our contribution. He has been to all the camps in the 1st Brigade and nearly all chipped in to this fund. We will get a report later next month on who went and some information on the program they experienced.

It is soon time for us to anti-up our dues to National and State, as well as Camp. To do this, we will all be getting a notice for our correct mailing address from the Virginia Division... I have sent your current address in to them to do this. I hope the process will be simplified this year as last year was unreal for me. Just standby and follow the instructions as they come in to your home address. Contact me if you get mixed signals.

New Camp Officers Effective July 22

Commander - Don Woolridge
1st Lt. Commander - Jeff Toalson
Archivist - Bob Tuck
Chaplain - Fred Breeden

Adjutant - Ken Parsons
2nd Lt. Commander, Cemetery Liaison - Steve White
Historian/Genealogist - Fred Boelt
Quartermaster - Gerry White

Book Auctions: Compatriot Jeff Toalson will be conducting his book auction monthly and donating the proceeds to the Camp's general fund. The July book will be *Wearing of the Gray* by John E. Cooke of General J. E. B. Stuart's staff. In conjunction with that we will also have a statuette of a Confederate cavalryman on horseback . . . perhaps a member of the James City Cavalry . . . donated by Steve White. The winner will be the proud owner of both.

Honoring our Confederate Soldier - June

Private William H. Ware Company D "Charles City Troop" – 3rd Virginia Cavalry

William H. Ware enlisted on June 30, 1861 at Jamestown. He was enlisted by Major Patton for a 1 year term. (See different enlistment information in June, 1864).

November 5, 1862 William is paid \$24 for his Sept. and Oct., 1862 service.

Shown present on the Aug and October, 1863 muster rolls.

Admitted 1-9-64 to Chimborazo #3 with Scabies & Diarrhea. Returned to duty 1-30-64.
Admitted 3-4-64 to Wayside Genl. Hospital #9. No further detail.

The April, 1864 muster roll shows William as "absent sick since 3/22/64."

The June, 1864 he is still shown "absent sick" since March of 64 but he is present and his past due monies are paid. However, the record now shows that he was enlisted on May 9, 1861 at Charles City CH by Major Wilson.

The August 1864 muster shows Williams absent sick again.

Transferred from Genl. Hosp. #9 1-28-1865 to Chimborazo #3.
Admitted 1-29-1865 to Chimborazo #3 with Scabies. Returned to duty 2-27-65.
Admitted to Wayside General Hosp. #9 on 3-7-1865 and sent to Chimborazo on 3-8-65 for rest with chronic diarrhea.

Late December, 1864 near Staunton, "*It was dark and we were tired, for we had tramped 15 miles, attending to our wounded all day, and we were very hungry. . . . we arrived at the old Stone Fort on the Valley Pike some miles north of Staunton . . . Lt. Harwood . . . asked the minister (Presbyterian) for help . . . took us into the church . . . there was plenty of fuel; put our horses in the sheds, gave us feed for them, . . . and he got us supper. . . . We soon had a hot stove and spread our blankets and overcoats and had the wounded soon comfortable with good food. . . . dressed the wounded and made them as comfortable as possible . . . We had a good night's rest, cleaned up the church and then breakfasted. [The preacher] gave us a blessing and we were off for Staunton.*" The wounded were cared for in Staunton and William was assigned as a temporary nurse until they were transferred to Richmond. William states that he got a furlough for 30 days to get another horse but before that 30 days is up he is at Chimborazo continuing his fight with scabies and diarrhea.

Paroled around the 23rd or 24th of May, 1865.

[Compiled Service Records – CSA, Micro Copy 324, Roll 36, United Daughter of the Confederacy, Richmond Virginia; My Last Four Months of the Confederacy, Wm. Ware, phamplet, undated.]

Point Lookout Confederate Memorial Park: Compatriot Ed Truslow recently had a memorial brick installed at Point Lookout for his ancestor. His ancestor was George H. Holleman, Co. A, 16th VA Infantry who survived Point Lookout. If you have not already done so, you are welcome to join the Descendants of Point Lookout Organization. Check out the web site at: www.plpow.com and click on "Join DOPL" for details.

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

When the land was purchased to build Lafayette High School, there was a family cemetery located near the northern mid-point of the tract. A chancery suit was held in 1971 to gain permission to relocate the graves into the eastern buffer zone of the school property. At least eight graves were moved to an area approximately 740 feet northeast of Longhill Road. These were the graves of the Nightengale and Bulifant families.

This tract of land had belonged to a branch of the Warburton family, and when it was sold out of that family in 1870, a ¼ acre graveyard was reserved for the family's continued use, indicating that there was an earlier graveyard already there. The purchaser, Rodman Wood, subsequently sold the land to Kryne Nightengale (Krijn Nagtegaal and his family had emigrated from the Netherlands to the United States in 1854 and ultimately settled in JCC). A Nightengale daughter, as will be seen below, married a Confederate veteran who was later buried in this cemetery.

John Albert Bulifant was the son of William J. Bulifant of Charles City County and was living on his father's farm when he enlisted into the 53rd Virginia Infantry on May 17, 1861 at Jamestown. His service record stated that he was seventeen years old and was a farmer. A private in Company K, he was wounded in action (severely in the arm) "on the right of York River Rail Road" on June 18, 1862. He was absent due to the wound through December 31st of that year. Present on all rolls from February through August, 1863, he was listed as AWOL from September 12, through December 31, 1863. He returned to service but was sick on the May 19, 1864 list. The record stated that he may have deserted on June 2, 1864, but he was listed as a paroled POW at the Capitol Building in Richmond on April 25, 1865.

After the war, John Bulifant married Mary Ellen Nightengale in James City County on November 5, 1873. Born on March 25, 1856, she was the daughter of Krijn and Nellie Nagtegaal/Nightengale. The Bulifants lived and farmed with her parents on the old Warburton farm. They had a total of twelve children, four of whom died young and are buried in this cemetery along with their Nightengale grandparents and an uncle. John Bulifant died on May 17, 1900 and is buried there as well. Mary Bulifant lived until March 28, 1944 and is buried at Jamestown Presbyterian Church at Five Forks.

Ultimately, descendants petitioned the school board for permission to place a grave marker at the site of the relocated graves. Permission was granted in 2007 and a very nice ledger stone marks the eight graves, and additionally, there is a military bronze marker commemorating John Bulifant's Confederate service. In this case, family perseverance paid off to see that this veteran's final resting place was not lost.

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 1st Lt. Commander Don Woolridge at 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>

If you are interested in shooting, marksmanship and live firing of all types of Civil war weapons, then **Graham's Battery/ 1st Rockbridge Artillery** is looking for new members. Go to our web site at <http://www11.brinkster.com/grambtry/> for more information.

Camp Officers

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Charles Howard - 2nd Lt. Commander
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Fred Boelt - Quartermaster
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Scott Summerfield - Surgeon
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Bill Blizzard - Chaplain
wblizzard@verizon.net

Thought for the Month

"You can be whatever you resolve to be."

General Thomas J. (Stonewall) Jackson 