



**June 2009**

**Williamsburg, Virginia**

Last Event: James City Cavalry hosted their Confederate Memorial Day Service on May 29. The Memorial Services started at Peach Park Cemetery, Forge Road and continued to Sunnyside Cemetery, Forge Road and concluded at James City Chapel Cemetery on Richmond Road in Norge. After the services a barbecue supper was held at Compatriot Fred Boelt's farm on Forge Road. Everyone enjoyed the southern style barbecue and all the fixings. We were pleased to have several members of the James City United Daughters of the Confederacy attend the services and the supper. See the website under the "2009 Confederate Memorial Day" tab for pictures.

**Next Meeting:** Our next meeting will be at "Hog Wild Smokehouse Restaurant" at 8864 Richmond Road, Toano, VA 23168 [www.hogwildsmokehouse.com](http://www.hogwildsmokehouse.com) on June 24 at 7pm. Guest speaker will be Billie Earnest who will give a historical presentation on "General and Mrs. George E. Pickett." Come and bring a guest, or even better, a future member!

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

The discipline of arts suffered radical transformation as the result of the North's spreading industrialization and crushing of Southern culture. To the Southerner, arts have to do with the cultivation of such practices as manners, conversation, leisure, hospitality, sympathy, family life and romantic love. The South is rich in folk arts, ballads, country songs and dances, hymns and spirituals, bluegrass, folk tales, weaving, quilting and furniture making. The Southerner *lived in his art*.

What is the industrial Northern theory of the arts? A large formidable body will promote it; it will be taken to the people or the people taken to it. We will buy it, hire it, can it, manufacture it; put it in museums or libraries. It will be put it on television or in movies where the audience puts forth no effort at all, they are inert.

Southern arts were produced in a stable society that was both religious and agrarian. Their values had little to do with the materialism of the industrial culture of the north. They were never too far removed from nature to forget that the chief subject of art is indeed, nature. Though not a formidable reason for participating in a devastating war, this difference between the North and the South was a reason that our ancestors wanted to preserve their values and social identity by establishing their own country.

## **Adjutant Ken Parsons:**

I'm sure those of you who were not able to attend the cemetery service and picnic heard about the wonderful program our Commander Ware conducted. We missed not having you there; it was all very moving, interesting and fun too. We had the following attend the services and picnic. Peach Park Cemetery (15) Sunnyside Cemetery (15) James City Chapel Cemetery (28) Fred's farm (38)

We were honored to have some special guest from the local chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and their husbands attend another first for the Camp. We have received compliments from them stating how nice the cemeteries looked after our clean up efforts and how great our flags add to the overall effort. We have hopes that our two organizations can combine our efforts on some project in the future.

We picked a perfectly wonderful day to have a picnic at Compatriot Fred Boelt's farm house. The shady back lawn had the evening temperatures just right and our meal of Commander Wares' barbeque was the best yet. He keeps improving this special feed every year. The best part was the association with our membership and our guest. Fred's peacocks and geese put on a special performance that everyone enjoyed, although; many wondered how he was going to get any sleep that night with them sounding an alarm every time anyone moved.

In case you haven't heard, Peter Jelinek, drew compatriot Bill Harrison' name out of the basket for the Stonewall painting he donated to the Camp last year. Bill was very pleased to have won this special prize and will soon have it framed and hanging on his wall.

We managed to squeeze in a couple of Camp business conversations before closing out the day. First was the nominating committee met and we now have almost all of the candidates we need for officers slate. We will ask for nominations from the floor at our June meeting and hold the election for these positions.

Next we discussed the project of sending a young person to this summers' Sam Davis Camp in Georgia. We are currently poling the membership for your thoughts and wishes concerning the cost of doing this. Several members have responded and we are waiting to hear from you on this important project. If anyone has questions about this please call me or see the write-up in the Confederate Veteran in the May/June issue.

### **Election of New Camp Officers**

The Executive Committee is proposing the following officers to lead the Camp:

Commander - Don Woolridge

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander - Jeff Toalson

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander, Cemetery Liaison - Steve White

Adjutant - Ken Parsons

Archivist - Bob Tuck

Historian/Genealogist - Fred Boelt

Chaplain - Fred Breeden

Quartermaster - Gerry White

Additional nominations will be received from the floor, followed by a general vote of the members. New officers will be installed at the beginning of the July meeting and will assume

office at that time.

**Book Auctions:** Compatriot Jeff Toalson will be conducting his book auction monthly and donating the proceeds to the Camp's general fund. This month's auction will feature "*The Siege of Atlanta*", 1864 by Samuel Carter - hardbound, 475 pages, published in 1973.

The auction for the Stonewall Jackson portrait which was kindly donated to the camp by Associate Peter Jelinek was held at the conclusion of the picnic supper. James City Cavalry Compatriot Bill Harrison was the highest bidder and lucky winner of the Stonewall portrait. Peter Jelinek is a local artist and his studio is located in the Colonial Town Shops at 6955 Richmond Road (Lightfoot Area). Peter has graciously offered to have the painting framed at no cost to the recipient.

## **JAMES CITY COUNTY CONFEDERATE GRAVESITES**

### **By Quartermaster Fred Boelt**

The discovery and preservation of the Jones family cemetery, formerly located in the Stonehouse residential development, could truly qualify for a "miracle" designation. In November 1998 a long-time county resident happened to be watching site work being done to lay out a street in a new section of this community. As the bulldozer moved ahead, he realized that there was an old cemetery directly in its path. His hasty action to get the developer's attention undoubtedly preserved the remains of eighteen unmarked graves.

The Jones family had long been residents in this upper county area. At least three generations of this family were interred in this graveyard on their property. After getting the proper paperwork done, an archaeological excavation was conducted and the remains for ten adults, six infants and two older children were found along with clothing and jewelry items. Employing osteological, archaeological and historical data, most of the individual members of the family were identified. Considering that the earliest burial had been in 1831 and the last proven burial had been in 1909, this was a remarkable rate of identity, particularly when there were no tombstones found. When the property was sold out of the family, the deed reserved the graveyard for the family's continued use. However, in subsequent deeds, the graveyard reservation was not included and lost over time. How many other graveyards have gone this same route?

There were two Confederate veterans buried in this cemetery. Richard Flemming Jones, born in 1834, was the son of John M. and Mary Jones. Richard was listed as a farmer living with his mother on this tract of land in 1860. He enlisted in Williamsburg on May 16, 1861, in the company that became the James City Artillery. He was present on all rolls through February 28, 1862, was left behind on May 4<sup>th</sup> (Peninsula Campaign) and rejoined on October 31, 1862. He was present on all rolls through December 31, 1864.

After the war, he returned to his farm, and in 1868, he married Margaret Gunn, daughter of James and Susan Gunn. Of Richard and Margaret's four children, only son John R. Jones survived to maturity. Richard Jones died in 1882 and was buried in the family cemetery. Later, his widow and son sold the farm, reserving the use of the cemetery.

The other veteran was William Filbates, Jr., who was born in New Kent County in 1828. He was the son of William and Polly Filbates, and in 1856, he married Harriet M. Jones, a daughter of John M. and Mary Jones and a sister of Richard Flemming Jones. At various times, his

occupation was listed as farmer and fisherman. Filbates enlisted in Company B (Barhamsville Troop), 53<sup>rd</sup> Virginia Infantry, in West Point on May 11, 1861, and was discharged on August 9, 1862, for being over 35 years old. His wife Harriet and their two daughters all died in 1863-1864 and were buried in the Jones family cemetery. By 1870, the census indicated that William had remarried. He, his wife Martha and two children were then living in the Ware Creek Township of New Kent County. William died in October 1882 and was buried with his first wife, Harriet in her family cemetery. In her widow's pension application in 1902, Martha Filbates stated that she and William were married by Preacher Simcoe in 1864 in New Kent County.

After the discovery/recovery period, the remains of the extended Jones family were re-interred in a mass grave at Tabernacle Methodist Church in Barhamsville. A 3x6 foot ledger stone with the names and dates of the deceased was placed over the grave. It was indeed a miracle that the old resident who had knowledge of the cemetery happened to be in the area when the site work was under way.

**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 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. 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

David Ware - Commander  
[dww52046@aol.com](mailto:dww52046@aol.com)

Ken Parsons - Adjutant  
[kparsons4@cox.net](mailto:kparsons4@cox.net)

Don Woolridge - 1st Lt. Commander  
[dsw317@earthlink.net](mailto:dsw317@earthlink.net)

Charles Howard - 2nd Lt. Commander  
[rexkadet@hughes.net](mailto:rexkadet@hughes.net)

Fred Boelt - Quartermaster  
[fboelt@yahoo.com](mailto:fboelt@yahoo.com)

Scott Summerfield - Surgeon  
[topnotch05@cox.net](mailto:topnotch05@cox.net)

Bill Blizzard - Chaplain  
[wblizzard@verizon.net](mailto:wblizzard@verizon.net)

### Thought for the Month

"Do your duty in all things....You cannot do more; you should never wish to do less."

General Robert E. Lee 