

James City Cavalry PICKET LINES



June 2010

Williamsburg, Virginia

Last Event: Our Confederate Memorial Service was held May 28th at Olive Branch Christian Church in Toano. We had 50 in attendance for the service and the picnic supper at Compatriot Fred Boelt's Farm.



Next Meeting: Our next meeting will be at "Hog Wild Smokehouse Restaurant" located at 8864 Richmond Road, Toano, VA 23168 www.hogwildsmokehouse.com on **June 23rd at 7pm.** Our Speaker **Mr. Preston Nuttall** - (James Longstreet Compatriot) Book talk on his latest book "*Dual on the Roanoke*" - *the Story of the C.S.S. Albemarle*, A Monument to Southern Resolve.

Planning Committee Meeting: The Camp Planning Committee will meet on June 16, 2010, 6:30 PM at "Hog Wild Smokehouse."

Commander Don Woolridge:

On May 28th we celebrated the service of our Confederate Veterans at Olive Branch Christian Church in Toano. The service was well attended and Chaplain Fred Breeden delivered an excellent service. Olive Branch Cemetery, the resting place of 30 Confederate Veterans is an impressive well kept resting place. It is quite a sight to see with the gravesites adorned with the Confederate Battle Flags. Our veterans buried there are indeed "Resting under the shade of the trees" quoted by General Stonewall Jackson.

After the service all in attendance retired to Compatriot Fred Boelt's farm on Forge Road. I think most would agree that Forge Road including Fred's farm is one of the most scenic areas in James City County if not the entire State of Virginia. We appreciate Fred's southern hospitality and all enjoyed the fine barbecue and fixings prepared by Past Commander David Ware.

Deo Vindice!

Adjutant Ken Parsons:

-Remembrance Day & Camp picnic-

Our Compatriots who missed this service and picnic missed the best one yet! It was a little warm but we had plenty shade at the Church and at Fred's' house.

Compatriots Fred Breeden and Charles Eugene Bush did an outstanding job of designing the service. As I said, it was the best one we have done since we started graveside services 3 years ago. David Ware arranged the first ones and Chaplin Breeden and Compatriot Bush have tweaked, prayers and paragraphs and carried the service to where we now have the best I have ever attended. It is certainly a blessing we have this talent within our Camp.

And speaking of talent, David Ware single handed (he had several lovely ladies helping) put together a great remembrance day BBQ supper at Fred Boelt's plantation house. We send out many thanks and a "job well done" to these folks for hosting another great annual event. I only wish the entire membership could have attended. It was a great day.

-President Jefferson F. Davis' Birthday Celebration-

David Ware and I attended our one and only true Presidents' 203rd birthday in Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond, this past Saturday. It is a grand event designed to keep alive his good name and to ensure he is not assigned to the back room of some museum. There were about 250 Southerners there, both from the SCV and the UDC representing several states.

After this service we went over to the National Headquarters of the UDC and witnessed the "massing of the flags". They have an outstanding building on The Boulevard in Richmond. They only allow the general public to tour this building this one day of the year. It was Compatriot Fred Satterwhites' urging to attend the grand parade of the flags of the Confederate States that we went. Fred had been some time in the past and was very pleased. We were also.

A roll call of the states in the order of which they succeeded and their flags are brought down to the front and mounted in this huge hall. The flag are more beautiful than I can describe. They are about 6 ft X 8ft and the colors are vivid. It is difficult to name a favorite for their beauty so I just paid homage to my South Carolina state flag! I'm sure others followed suit as many folks would stand for their state flag as it was carried down the isle.

- Oakwood Cemetery-

On the return trip we stopped by to see our Oakwood Cemetery to check out the work being performed there, it is a moving experience. Just looking over the gravesites of some 17,000 of our ancestors who gave there all for the "Cause" is heart wrenching. The Confederate section of the cemetery is in better shape than most. The City of Richmond was not doing a very good job on this huge cemetery. We can readily see why our Virginia Division wanted to take this responsibility away from the City; we will do a much better job. I wish all our members could pay a visit there to see with their own eyes the work being done. More changes will be made over the next few years. We plan to install 17,000 new headstones on every soldier's grave!

-New members-

At our June meeting we will be installing 5 new members, they are:

Ash Thumm, Chris Hockaday, Lee Ware, Travis Turner, and FOSCV Jean Keating. Let us all turnout and welcome these new Compatriots to our Camp on June 23rd at 6:30pm at the Hogwild Smoke House Restaurant.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge of Allegiance was written in 1892 by Francis Bellamy to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the landing of Christopher Columbus and to "celebrate" the system of free public education which Bellamy and fellow Northerners believed to be the cornerstone of the American system. In saying the pledge, we pledge "allegiance." This word was chosen to recognize the "oath of allegiance" that our Confederate ancestors were required to take in order to have voting rights. Allegiance is pledged to a flag. Most foreign people find it unusual that we Americans pay homage to a flag as opposed to perhaps the Constitution or as some of them do, to the monarch.

In Bellamy's own words:

"The true reason for allegiance to the Flag is the'

Republic for which it stands'. ...And what does that vast thing, the Republic mean? It is the concise political word for the Nation - the One Nation which the Civil War was fought to prove. To make that One Nation idea clear, we must specify that it is indivisible, as Webster and Lincoln used to repeat in their great speeches."

This nation was not founded as a republic but as a *federation* of republics, the republics being the sovereign states that banded together to fight the British and to form a new government. Since our founding, two incompatible philosophies have emerged: The Jeffersonian tradition of limited, small government bound by a constitution to define its limits and the Lincolnian tradition of large centralized government unlimited in scope and determining its own limits of power through such shibboleths as "reasonable," and "the will of the people."

In 1866, Lord Acton, a great classical liberal statesman, corresponded with Robert E. Lee: "I saw in State Rights the only availing check upon the absolutism of the sovereign will, and secession filled me with hope, not as the destruction of but as the redemption of Democracy... Therefore I deemed that you were fighting the battles of our liberty, our progress, and our civilization: and I mourn for the stake which was lost at Richmond more deeply that I rejoice over that which was saved at Waterloo."

Lee replied: "I yet believe that the maintenance of the rights and authority reserved to the states and to the people, not only essential to the adjustment and balance of the general system, but the safeguard to the continuance of a free government... whereas the consolidation of the states into *one vast republic* (italics mine) sure to be aggressive abroad and despotic at home, will be the certain precursor of that ruin which has overwhelmed all those that have preceded it."

1st Lt. Commander Jeff Toalson: Book Auctions: Jeff will be conducting his book auction monthly and donating the proceeds to the Camp's general fund. Our book for the "Book Auction" in June will be: "*Elmira - Death Camp of the North*", Michael Horigan 2006 Mechanicsburg, PA 245 pages - soft bound.

JAMES CITY COUNTY CONFEDERATE GRAVESITES

By Historian/Genealogist Fred Boelt

After having a very impressive Confederate Memorial service at Olive Branch Christian Church on May 28th, we will continue with the biographical sketches of the veterans resting there. This month we will look at the life of Winder George Whitfield Farthing. Born on November 14, 1836, he was the son of James T. Farthing and his wife, Susan A. Lightfoot from Hill Pleasant. Winder attended Emory and Henry College in southwestern Virginia, and then went to Texas where he taught school for three years before the War Between the States broke out. He enlisted there as a private in the 5th Regiment, Texas Infantry. His service was summed up in his obituary: "He enlisted in a Texas company; was soon ordered to Virginia; refused all entreaties to be transferred to some company of his native county; fought bravely and heroically; was wounded at Gettysburg; fell into the hands of the enemy, whose surgeon amputated the wounded man's right leg, and he did not get home until the close of the war." His service record indicated that he had been promoted to sergeant before he was captured.

After the war, Farthing studied law at the University of Virginia. In the 1870 census, he was living in York County and serving as the Clerk of the Circuit Court for James City County and the City of Williamsburg. In 1872, Winder's father, James T. Farthing, entered into a deed of trust on 200 acres near present day Lightfoot. This tract, known as "Breezeland," was along Richmond Road where the Brass Shop is located today. Much of the land is now included in the Colonial Heritage development. When James Farthing died the following year, his son Winder settled his estate, and ultimately became owner of "Breezeland."

On November 19, 1873, Winder Farthing married Edith Mae Power from Yorktown. Her brother, Frederick D. Power, was a well known minister in the Disciples of Christ denomination, and eventually served a large church in Washington. Winder Farthing was baptized and became a member at Olive Branch on March 4, 1874, undoubtedly influenced by the Power family. He often conducted services during the absence of a minister. Winder and Edith had eight children between 1876 and 1891.

Farthing was appointed Judge of the James City and Williamsburg Court in January 1886. He was still serving in this capacity when his untimely death occurred rather suddenly on November 29, 1891. His brother-in-law, Elder Power, was called from Washington to conduct his funeral at Olive Branch. Judge Farthing was interred there on December 1st, among other Confederate veterans. One of his daughters, Miss Mary Power Farthing (1881-1965), lived at "Breezeland" for the rest of her life. She taught at Toano High School for many years. Miss Mary was one of the ladies responsible for putting flags on the graves at Olive Branch for Memorial Day commemorations. We are indebted to her for seeing that the tradition was passed down to other members of Olive Branch Church.

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. Please e-mail 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>

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Thought for the Month

“Our situation illustrates the American idea that governments rest on the consent of the governed, and that it is the right of the people to alter or abolish them whenever they become destructive of the ends for which they were established.”

President Jefferson Davis





CAMP JOURNAL

May 28, 2010

- **Service:** Held 5:00 PM at Olive Branch Christian Church, Toano, VA
 - 50 attendees
 - Welcome given by Commander Don Woolridge
 - Service: by Chaplin Fred Breedon
 - Welcome
 - Pledge and Salute to the Flags
 - US flag pledge
 - The Charge: was read by Compatriot Charles Eugene Bush
 - Litany of Thanksgiving
 - Scripture
 - Reading of Veterans names buried at Olive Branch
 - Amazing Grace – Bagpipes
 - Chaplains Prayer
 - Benediction
 - Singing of Dixie by all

- Barbecue Picnic Supper – Compatriot Fred Boelt's Farm

Respectfully submitted,

Donald S. Woolridge