



March 2009

Williamsburg, Virginia

**Last Meeting:** Our last meeting had 28 in attendance. Our program was presented by William A. Dervishian of New Kent County and author of *"White House on the Pamunkey and the Peninsula Campaign in Virginia, 1862."* Mr. Dervishian presented an historical account "White House Landing" and the Peninsula Campaign of the war.

**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 March 25th at 7pm. Our speaker will be Carol K. Dubbs; author of *"Defend this Old Town"* Mrs. Dubbs will give a presentation about her book as well as information on the "Battle of Williamsburg." She will be available to sign her books after the presentation. Come and bring a guest.

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

The most glaring source of conflict between the North and the South was a spiritual one: that of the agrarian society as opposed to the industrial society. Though there were agricultural pursuits in all areas of the country, the greatest concentration lay in the South. As the nation was founded, the Industrial Revolution was starting to unfold, with industry prevailing in the North and agriculture in the South. The Constitution was an attempt to bring to balance the conflicting interests of these two cultures. Industrialism thought is linear, while agrarian thought is cyclical. The industrial process requires progress, views the Earth as a cosmic dinner plate with conquest of nature, possession, consumption, newness, while agrarianism offers harmony with creation, quality, and renewal and views the Creator as both a source and end. The goal of industrialism is to reduce labor and increase consumption. This, of course, views labor as demeaning and something that a "successful" person avoids. The ultimate goal of the industrial state is Utopia, a restoration of the Garden of Eden, a place where all will be equal (the same), a "Heaven on Earth". Arian people have a relationship and stewardship with the land, they are rooted in the fruits of the earth and honor creation as that which provides and takes away, they recognize and blend with the seasons, accept death as part of life. The industrialist views the state as a method to promote special interests and growth. The agrarian wants to be left alone. By 1860, the balance between North and South had dramatically shifted in favor of the North. Recognizing this, Lincoln ran for election as a sectarian candidate. He did not campaign in the South, choose to ignore the region and was elected with 38% of the popular vote. His vocation was a lawyer and railroad lobbyist. His counterpart was Jefferson Davis, a Mississippi planter, "The industrialist versus the farmer." To the industrialist the "ends justify the means," so Lincoln had no problem with the slash and burn policy of total war waged on the people of the South by

Sherman, Sheridan and Grant. President Clinton's Secretary of State, Madeline Albright, when asked if the 100,000 Iraqi children who perished as a result of the U. S. led sanctions against Iraq were "worth it," replied: "Yes." This, of course, was broadcast over the Moslem world, contributing to the World Trade Center attacks, resulting war with Afghanistan and Iraq, and the severe recession that we are now in. The ends justify the means. The Southerner was rooted in community, thus when it came time to choose between the principal of being a "good American" or the community, the Southerners choose their community. Robert E. Lee wrote to his sister: "With all my devotion to the Union and the feeling of loyalty and duty of an American citizen, I have not been able to make up my mind to raise my hand against my relatives, my children, and my home." The essayist, Wendell Berry, in his book, "A Continuous Harmony," says of Lee's decision to join his people: "There have been few acts of as much integrity since." Indeed, all our ancestors who served "the Cause" are excellent examples of principled integrity.

Deo Vindice

**Adjutant Ken Parsons:** The Division Convention will be held April 24 through 26<sup>th</sup> at the Lexington George Washington in Williamsburg. Information for the convention is posted on the website under the convention tab. The site will be updated upon receipt of new or updated information. All members are welcome to attend the opening ceremonies and the Saturday night supper. The business meetings on Saturday are only open to registered delegates from the individual camps.

**Fort Magruder Clean-up Project Update:** We were able to get a lot done and there is still work yet to be completed! Limbs and brush were not chipped and will have to be disposed of at a later time. The flag pole was taken down in preparation for the move but we were not prepared to re-erect it. In addition, we may have an opportunity to obtain another used flag pole, free of charge. As soon as we obtain it and we learn what is needed to erect it, we will install both of them. Hopefully, by then we will have the flags we want to fly and they will go up also!

Thanks to compatriots: Cdr. David Ware, Fred Boelt, Ken Parsons Steve White, Mike Garrett, Jerry White, and Scott Summerfield and his son Kyle who showed up for the work detail.

Steve White demonstrated his Confederate heritage by using a 20" handsaw to finish cutting down a 26" pine tree after his chain saw gave out when he was about half way through cutting it. Such determination was what kept many of our ancestors going after much hardship and suffering during the great war.

We will schedule another work day for the completion of this project. Thanks again to all who were able to come out last Saturday.

**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 book "*Chancellorsville*" by Stephen Sears - hardbound, dust cover in excellent shape, 1996 edition which is the first printing year but this is not a first edition.

Jeff will conduct in the future a larger auction for the painting of Stonewall Jackson which was kindly donated to the camp by Associate Peter Jelinek. Peter is a local artist. His studio is located in The Village Shops at Kingsmill. Peter has graciously offered to have the painting framed at no cost to the highest bidder when the auction is held. This painting is of the finest artistic quality and would be a treasure to anyone that holds our Confederate General Stonewall Jackson in the highest esteem.

## **Honoring our Confederate Soldier - February**

### **Private James A. Wood**

#### **Company D "Fincastle Rifles" – 11<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry**

James A. enlisted in Company D on April 23, 1864 in Fincastle, Virginia. He was 17 years of age, 5' 7", with fair complexion, light hair and green eyes.

Rather than being drafted he enlists as a recruit for his friend Private Geo. Carper who gets a furlough and bonus money for getting a recruit. They share the bonus money. James gets \$275.

James A. joins the 11<sup>th</sup> Virginia just before Cold Harbor in June, 1864. Following Cold Harbor the 11<sup>th</sup> is moved to Bermuda Hundred (The Howlett Line) and also saw service at Chaffin's Farm, Chester Station, Nine Mile Road, Dinwiddie Court House, Five Forks and Saylor's Creek.

On February 26, 1865 from camp near Bermuda Hundred James wrote his mother, ". . . *There was right smart excitement in camp the other day about the negro question. Every man in camp but 4 or 5 voted for putting them in [the army as soldiers]. I think that looks rather strange for us to do something that we were so much against at the first of the war. It looks like a drowning man catching at a straw.*"

James is captured April 6, 1865 in the melee at Saylor's Creek. On April 9 James arrives at prison camp in Newport News, Virginia and his father mails a letter speaking of the evacuation of Richmond. He understands Lee's strategy and has no idea that on the day he is writing Lee is surrendering at Appomattox. Davis wrote, "*We have heard of the evacuation of Richmond. This is no doubt a stroke of policy on the part of Genl. Lee for the purpose of concentrating his forces and drawing the Yankees farther from their base of supplies. The Campaign is now about to be an active one . . .*"

James takes the Oath of Allegiance on July 1 and is released from prison on July 3, 1865.

He returns to Glen Wilton, marries a few years later, has 10 children and farms in the James river valley for the rest of his life.

James is an active member of the Allegheny Rough Camp 118 of the UCV. He attends Confederate reunions in Richmond (1907), Birmingham (1926), Tampa (1927), Charlotte (1928), Montgomery (1931), and Gettysburg (1938).

James died March 2, 1940 at the age of 92. He was the last surviving member of the Fincastle Rifles and of UCV Camp 118.

**(11<sup>th</sup> Virginia Infantry, Robert T. Bell, Lynchburg, 1985; No Soap, No Pay, Diarrhea, Dysentery & Desertion, Toalson, Lincoln, 2006, p333, 368, 409; Microfilm service records 11<sup>th</sup> Virginia, United Daughters of Confederacy, Richmond, Virginia.)**

### **JAMES CITY COUNTY CONFEDERATE GRAVESITES**

There is a small cemetery enclosed by a new brick wall with a wrought iron gate located along Strawberry Plains Road directly behind Bucktrout Funeral Home. The plaque on the monument in the center of the cemetery reads: "Waltrip and Booker Family Cemetery." There are two Confederate veterans interred within these walls. While this study is intended to honor them, we might also say that it is a study of Anna Frances Chapman and her four husbands, three of whom fought for the Southern Cause.

Anna Chapman was born in Crab Neck, York County in 1838, and in her twentieth year, she married Stephen Watkins, also of York County. Tragically, he was thrown from a horse and died on Christmas Day 1858. Anna then married Charles H. Graves of Surry County around 1860. Records indicate that they lived near Cross Creek and Underwood's Mill located close to Swann's Point. When the call went out, Graves enlisted as a private into Company E, 5<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry on April 20, 1861. He was present on rolls through August and was discharged on September 7, 1861. There is no further record of other service. He and Anna had five children before his death around 1869-1870. It is assumed that he is buried in an unmarked grave in Surry County in one of several cemeteries in the Cross Creek area.

Again, Anna remarried quickly on March 4, 1871, this time to George Marshall Booker from Elizabeth City County. Booker had enlisted as a private in Company A, 32<sup>nd</sup> Virginia Infantry in Hampton on May 13, 1861. He served throughout the war, was color sergeant for a period of time in 1863, was wounded, recovered, furloughed, sick and back in service at different times and was paroled in Lynchburg on April 15, 1865. Anna and her Graves children moved to James City County to join her new husband at Jockey's Neck (present day Williamsburg Winery). There, the Bookers had three daughters. The youngest, Georgie Belle Booker, was born there in 1881, and sometime before George Booker's death on January 12, 1884, the family moved to land on Strawberry Plains Road. Booker is the first known grave there, and interestingly, the deed to the property was delivered to the Widow Booker two months after his death.

Though a date for Anna's fourth marriage has not been found, it seems safe to assume that, after a respectable mourning period, she married her fourth husband, Benjamin Jesse Waltrip, Sr. Like two of his predecessors, Waltrip also served in defense of the Confederate cause. He enlisted into Company G (Lee's Guard), 32<sup>nd</sup> Virginia Infantry on May 13, 1861 in Williamsburg. This unit was transferred to the 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia Artillery and his service record runs through September 1862. It is possible that his unit was again subsumed into another unit of the artillery. Waltrip had children by a previous marriage, but he and Anna did not have any children together. Anna died in 1914, and is buried in this cemetery with husbands three and four. When Ben Waltrip died in 1925, his obituary stated that he would be buried at Booker's Corner, perhaps referring to the fork formed by the intersection of Strawberry plains and Ironbound Roads. Graves, Booker and Waltrip descendants are also buried there.

Anna Frances Chapman Watkins Graves Booker Waltrip endured all the hardships of southerners during and after the war. However, she seems to have had a special love for Confederate veterans!

**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."

**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  
[rexford@hughes.net](mailto:rexford@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)

### **Sons of Confederate Veterans**

#### **Virginia Division Convention**

**April 24th, 25th, 26th, 2009**

**Lexington George Washington Inn  
and Conference Center**

**500 Merrimac Trail  
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185  
(757) 220-1410 Fax: (757) 259-5500**

**[www.lqwinn.com](http://www.lqwinn.com)**

**See website for details  
[www.jamescitycavalry.org](http://www.jamescitycavalry.org)**

I am also mindful of the hardship and shed blood of our Confederate forefathers from whom we are descended. I am mindful of the sacrifice, pain, and destruction leveled on Southern civilians and property by an invading Union army. I am mindful of the careless and inhuman treatment of the South during and following the War for Southern Independence. I am mindful of Southern states which asked their citizens to suffer, fight, and die in their defense, but now refuse to honor their sacrifice, and instead give in to the politically correct crowd who don't know the difference between being educated and being brainwashed. And, I hear Confederate blood from a thousand hills crying, "Where is our respect?"

I am a Christian. And while some may shun me because of it, they aren't going to feed me to lions. I am also the proud descendant of a brave Confederate Soldier, and a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. I can say this with ease, to anyone who will listen, but I must strive to be worthy. Worthy of the blood of our Confederate Ancestors, and worthy of the blood of martyrs.

**Bro. Len Patterson, Th.D.**  
**Army of Trans-Mississippi Chaplain**

### **Thought for the Month**

**"Help me to be, to think, to act what is right because it is right; make me truthful, honest, and honorable in all things; make me intellectually honest for the sake of right and honor and without thought of reward to me."**

**General Robert E. Lee, CSA**

