



# James City Cavalry Picket Lines



April 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.

## April Muster Cancelled

We appreciate your patience and understanding. We will continue to send monthly newsletters to keep you informed of ongoing James City Cavalry Camp 2095 efforts and services. Hopefully our meetings will be able to resume in the next few months. Our number one concern is the health and safety of our members, guests and the CHCC staff.

## Virginia SCV Convention Rescheduled

Due to CoVid-19 concerns the Virginia SCV Convention has been rescheduled to September 11-13, in South Boston, at the Berry Hill Resort. All registrations, including meals, fees, etc. have been transferred and will be honored. The same room rates will apply and the special \$89 SCV room rate should be mentioned when you contact the resort at 434- 517-7000 to make your September reservations. This is an unprecedented situation in an unprecedented time. The health of our membership is the Virginia Division's primary goal.

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)

## Commander's Comments

Compatriots,

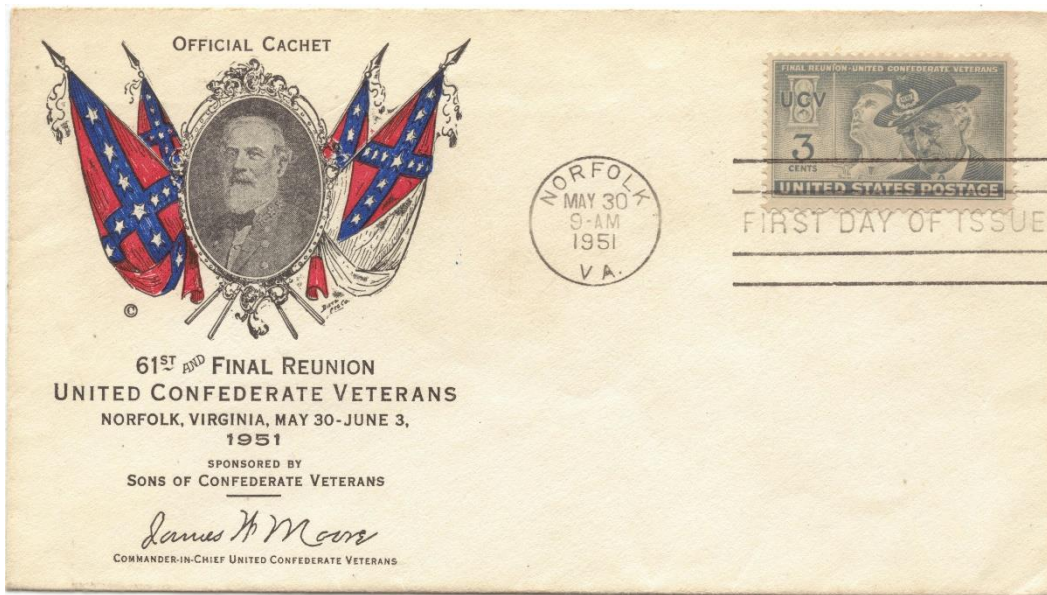
For the safety of our members, guests and the CHCC staff our April meeting has been scratched. However the camp projects continue. See these key items on the following pages:

- 1) We did a clean-up of the trash in the moat at Fort Magruder. You will see an article and photos from 2nd Lt. Commander Steve White on the subject. Steve probably has a 'dry' April Saturday scheduled to haul the debris away.
- 2) Fred Boelt has included his monthly article of local history .
- 3) The Virginia SCV Annual Convention has been moved from April to September 11-13 in South Boston.
- 4) Compatriot Toalson has acquired some wonderful items for donations to the Swem Archives to continue our ongoing project preserving Southern History.
- 5) Adjutant Parsons is submitting our Camp donation for the 2020-2021 Virginia Division Heritage Defense fund.

We serve in their memory,

Jerry Thompson

# Keating – Camp 2095 Swem Archives Donation



We were able to acquire some wonderful items for our 2020 donation to the Swem Archives. This will continue the expansion of their collection of Southern letters, documents, papers, and other items relating to the WBTS.

Above you will see a copy of one of six different ‘First Day of Issue’ Commemorative Envelopes for the Final U. C. V. Reunion in Norfolk, Virginia, in 1951. We will have copies of the other envelopes in future issues of *Picket Lines*.

The document on the next page is an order sending broken down cavalry horses, in the Army of Tennessee, to Eufala, Alabama, to regain their health. Unlike the Army of Northern Virginia, whose cavalry was almost entirely from Virginia, they could not send men home with four company mounts and return with four fresh mounts. Of the eight cavalry brigades in Wheeler’s Cavalry only one was from Georgia. Confederate cavalymen owned their own horses. They had no way to replace broken down horses. This forced many cavalry units to become ‘dismounted cavalry’ which is another way of saying ‘infantry.’

Compatriot Jeff Toalson

# Order on Cavalry Horses

"copy"

Head Qtrs – Army of Tenn

In the field

June 30<sup>th</sup> 1864

Circular

II Cavalry horses belonging to this Army, unfit for service, will be sent without delay to the neighborhood of Eufaula, Ala to be recruited. Commanding Officers will send with the horses, a sufficient number of men to care for them, (not, however, to exceed one man to four (4) horses) the whole to be placed in charge of competent officers, who will see that the object is attained for which these horses are sent to the rear and that the men do not straggle over the country.

II II All horses will be inspected previous to sending them to the rear, and those that will not be fit for field service must be disposed of as public forage cannot be furnished such animals.

II II II The Chief Qr Mr will select a Q.M. to provide forage for the horses sent to the neighborhood of Eufaula in obedience to this order.

By Command of

Genl Johnston

(sg ) A. P. Mason

Major & A A G

Official

E. S. Burford

Major & A A G

To Brig Gen Kelly

Commanding

*(ed: Brig. General John H. Kelly is in command of a division of cavalry under General Wheeler. On September 2, 1864, he will be mortally wounded in an attack on Sherman's communication and supply lines near Franklin, Tennessee.)*

*(ed: This letter, Gen. Kelly's copy, demonstrates the lengths the Confederate cavalry must take to keep their horses fed and healthy. Too many units are dismounted or serving at less than 50% because of their inability to keep their horses healthy.)*

*(ed: Unlike Virginia cavalry units in Lee's Army, where the men would take worn out horses back to their county and bring fresh horses back, that was almost impossible in Johnston's army operating in Georgia. Of the 8 cavalry brigades under Wheeler only 1 brigade was from Georgia. Also remember, CSA soldiers owned their own horses.*

*(ed: This document will be one of 2020 donations to the Swem Archives at William and Mary by the James City Cavalry in our ongoing effort to assist them in preserving Southern history through letters and documents.)*



## Camp Officers



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## Heritage Defense

Normally the James City Cavalry makes their Camp donation to the Virginia SCV Heritage Defense Fund in April at the Convention. Since the Convention has been moved to September I am mailing our donation to Treasurer Bill Graham this month. The \$500 will be earmarked for the Heritage Defense Fund.

Adjutant Ken Parsons

## Ft. Magruder & Cemetery Cleanup



In the picture above you can see we made a major attack on the tree trash in the moat. A huge amount of this trash was behind the one house that backs up to the moat. I will call a few compatriots, when the ground is dryer, to load up the piles of tree trash to take to the dump.

Jon Holland took his weed-eater to Spencer-Cowles and cleaned up that property. I took my weed-eater to Sunnyside and it is cleared. We still have the sign at Peach Park that needs a fresh coat of paint and I will catch that on an upcoming warm day.

2nd Lt Commander Steve White



Ft. Magruder Crew: Clark Waring, Steve White, Bob Tuck, Gerry Waring (UDC), Paul Huelskamp, and Pam Natchus (UDC). Not pictured: Jeff Toalson

# Confederate Gravesites

(Contributed by Compatriot Fred Boelt)

I will begin this article by saying thank you to several friends who share their research findings with me from time to time. While on a visit to the Hill Memorial Library, Louisiana State University at Baton Rouge, one friend discovered that many of the original records of the United Confederate Veterans are archived there. Among the items copied was the original application for a charter for the Magruder - Ewell Camp, UCV, dated May 5, 1892. And while we may look at other details from this collection in the future, it has provided several more names of veterans buried locally.

Richard Barron Servant was born in Hampton around 1832. His parents were Samuel B. and Jane E. Servant. The family descended from Bertrand Scervant, an early settler from a prominent French family. Over time, the "c" was dropped from the name. Richard was named for his grandfather, Capt. Richard B. Scervant who led a company of the 115th Virginia Militia, War of 1812.

Based on census records, Richard's father died sometime between 1840 and 1850. When the family was enumerated in 1850, Richard, his mother and two sisters were living in the household of William R. Laws in Hampton. There was no indication of relationship included in the census entry. By 1860, Richard's older sister Mary had married John C. Telford, a Hampton merchant. Richard and his younger sister, Ellen Jane were living with the Telfords, and John's occupation was listed as carpenter.

Richard Servant enlisted as a private in Company A (Wythe Rifles), 32nd Virginia Infantry, in Hampton on May 13, 1861. He was serving as 1st Sergeant on March 1, 1862. He was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant on May 22nd and 1st Lieutenant on January 7, 1863. He was absent, detailed to Fort Clifton from April 27 to August 15, 1863, and he was listed as sick on July 1, 1862, and again from November 15, 1864, through January 31, 1865. Like so many men, his record ends here.

It is not known whether Richard Servant returned to Hampton after the war or whether he stopped in Williamsburg. He did attend the estate sale of Samuel B. Russell held in Williamsburg on January 21, 1869. At this sale, he purchased three saws, a hammer, spirit level, clamps, two mallets, several planes, a rasp, a set of drafting tools, a spoke shave, a lot of lumber and window frames and some mahogany wood. It seems obvious that he was continuing his earlier profession as a house carpenter.

Richard has not been found in the 1870 census. But we do know that he married Olivia A. Vaiden on December 15, 1870. Olivia, born in 1854, was the daughter of Melville Vaiden and his first wife, Mary Lucy Stubblefield. This family lived in New Kent County before the war. Melville Vaiden died in January 1862, and when the 1870 census was taken, Olivia was attending school in Williamsburg, living in the household of Louisa Barlow Vaiden who had married Galba Vaiden, Olivia's brother [Picket Lines. April 2013]. Richard and Olivia Servant made their home in Williamsburg and had a son, Richard Barron Servant, Jr. (1872-1872) and a daughter, Mary Lucy Servant (1874-1949).

When the 1880 census was taken, Richard, Olivia, Mary Lucy and Richard's mother, Jane Servant were living in Williamsburg, and his occupation was again listed as carpenter. Tragedy struck the family on September 29, 1883, when Olivia Servant died. Though the date is unknown, Richard did marry Cordelia Lee Slater as his second wife, but they had no children. By 1886, Richard had purchased the house today known as Charlton House at the eastern end of Duke of Gloucester Street, and this home was occupied by his heirs until 1949. Richard was a charter member of the Magruder-Ewell Camp, UCV, and he was listed on the charter application as Officer of the Day.

Richard Barron Servant died on June 3, 1895, and his obituary stated that he had been connected with the Eastern Lunatic Asylum for twenty-five years and was an active member and deacon of the Baptist church where his funeral was held. Interment followed at Cedar Grove Cemetery. There is a small metal marker next to his tombstone that bears his name and Confederate service.