



"CONFEDERATE GRAYS"



Newsletter of the Norfolk County Grays

SCV Camp No. 1549

Volume 3

Issue 2

February 2011

Officers

Mark Johnson
Commander

Kenzy Joyner
Lt. Commander

Justin Matthews
Adjutant

Kenzy Joyner
Color Sergeant

B. Frank Earnest
Public Relations Officer

Vance Tysor III
Treasurer

Edward James Sawyer
Chaplain

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Contact information:

Mark B. Johnson, *Cmdr*

Norfolk County Grays Meeting

February 16, 2011

Gus & George's Spaghetti & Steak Restaurant
4312 Virginia Beach Blvd.
Virginia Beach, Va.
(757-340-6587)
Just east of Independence Blvd

**Guest speaker for the February
Norfolk County Grays meeting will be
B. Frank Earnest
Topic: Bicentennial (200 year) Anniversary of
the War Between the states**

Next Norfolk County Grays Camp Meeting

March 16, 2011

Guest speaker will be:

To be announced

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*Norfolk County Grays
Camp Officers
2011 - 2012*



Mark Johnson
Commander



Kenzy Joyner
Lt. Commander / Color Sergeant



Justin Matthews
Adjutant



Vance Tysor III
Treasurer



B. Frank Earnest
Public Relations Officer

No Picture
Available at Press
Time

Edward James Sawyer
Chaplain

NEW MEMBERS BIOGRAPHY

New members of the Norfolk County Grays stepped forward and take active leadership roles within the camp. Below is a sort biography of these new members. A hearty Rebel yell is lifted upward for these members.



Justin Matthews

Adjutant

I was born on July 9, 1990 in Norfolk and attended Court Street Academy (a private school) in Olde Town, Portsmouth until I transferred to Western Branch Middle School for my 8th grade year. I went on and graduated from Western Branch High School on June 13, 2008. In August of 2008, I got was employed by Bennett's Creek Heating and Air Conditioning as a helper/apprentice/scrapper and perform work on both commercial and residential Heating and A/C systems; however, I prefer commercial work. I enjoy hunting in Northampton, NC. where my family owns land dating back to the 1800s.



Vance Tysor III

Treasurer

My full name is Vance Edwin Tysor III and I was born and bred a native of Norfolk, Virginia. My entire family has proudly live here for at least four generations. I am a graduate of Norfolk Collegiate School and Hampden-Sydney College in Farmville, Virginia. I attended three years of law school at the University of Richmond, T.C. Williams School of Law before transferring back to Hampton Roads. I currently work as a Construction Claims Analyst at the law firm Vandeventer Black LLP in the World Trade Center in downtown Norfolk. I am very proud of my Confederate heritage and look forward to serving the Norfolk County Grays Camp #1549 in the capacity of Treasurer. I take this honor very seriously and promise to uphold my duties to the best of my abilities.



UPCOMING EVENTS



February 16, 2011 Norfolk County Grays Camp #1549 meeting

February 26, 2011 12TH ANNUAL Appomattox Courthouse National Park & Longwood University War Between the States Seminar.

March 16, 2011 Norfolk County Grays Camp #1549 meeting

March 25-27, 2011 15th ANNUAL LIBERTY UNIVERSITY WAR BETWEEN THE STATES SEMINAR

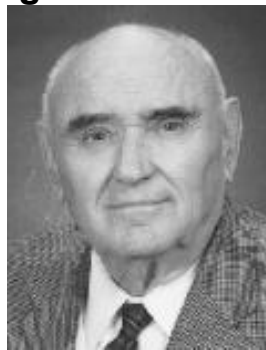
April 1-3, 2011 Virginia Division SCV Convention in Front Royal, VA

April 8, 2011 20th Anniversary of Norfolk County Grays

May 7, 2011 Sesquicentennial Event "Storm Over Suffolk".

Compatriot Crosses the River to Rest Under the Shade of the Trees

Compatriot W. Baxter Perkinson, Sr, a true friend of the Norfolk County Grays has crossed over the river and is resting under the shade of the trees.



W. Baxter Perkinson, Sr.

Compatriot William Baxter Perkinson died peacefully Monday, January 17, 2011. He was a dual member of A.P. Hill Camp, as well as the Norfolk County Grays. Compatriot Perkinson helped the Norfolk County Grays get started by serving as our Charter Adjutant. He was the 3rd Charter officer to pass away in the last 20 years and will be sorely missed.

TWELFTH ANNUAL APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
and LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY FREE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES SEMINAR



THE WAR BEGINS: 1861

**JARMAN AUDITORIUM
LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY
FARMVILLE, VIRGINIA**

Saturday, February 26, 2011

This annual seminar is sponsored by:

**Appomattox Court House National Historical Park, Eastern National Bookstore,
The Department of History, Political Science, & Philosophy,
And the Center for Southside Virginia History at Longwood University**

This seminar is FREE and open to the public.

Parking available on Longwood University campus *except* in 24 hour reserved spaces, handicapped, or tow-away zones.

Lunch is available at the Longwood University Dining Hall

Signs will be posted on the Longwood University Campus. For directions to the campus go to www.longwood.edu. For more information contact Dr. David Coles at 434.395.2220 or Patrick Schroeder at 434.352.8987, Ext. 32.



15th ANNUAL LIBERTY UNIVERSITY CIVIL WAR SEMINAR

1861 FIRST BLOOD



THE BOMBARDMENT OF FORT SUMTER, 1861, BY GEORGE EDWARD PERINE

March 25-27, 2011

- ALL EVENTS ARE ON THE CAMPUS OF LIBERTY UNIVERSITY, LYNCHBURG, VA**
Friday March 25, 6:30 p.m.— Kickoff Banquet at Fellowship Hall, Thomas Road Baptist Church, with Period Music and Entertainment by Col. and Mrs. Keith Gibson of VMI
Saturday March 26, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. — Speaker Presentations and Artifact Displays at The Arthur S. DeMoss Learning Center
Sunday March 27, 9:00 a.m. — Period Worship Service at The R.C. Whorley Prayer Chapel

Speakers

DR. CLIFTON POTTER: Lynchburg—1861 [Kickoff Speaker]	COLLEEN FORMBY: Comforts from Home: the Contributions of the Soldiers' Aid Societies
CALVIN ASHWELL: The Rise of the Confederate Navy and Naval Actions in 1861	DONALD GILMORE: The Civil War on the Western Border, 1854-1865
DOUGLASS BOSTICK: Antebellum Charleston and the Firing on Fort Sumpter	HUNTER LESSER: Rebels at the Gates: (Lee's West Virginia Campaign)
PROF. ED EDMAN: Images of the Civil War—1861	JAMES MORGAN: "A Little Short of Boats"—The Battle of Ball's Bluff and Edwards Ferry, October 21-22, 1861
REV. ALAN FARLEY: Neutrality is Broken—The Battle of Belmont 1861 [also Period Church Service]	ETHAN S. RAFUSE: A Single Grand Victory: The First Campaign and the Battle of Manassas
	DOUG WICKLUND: The Guns of 1861

ADMISSION (prior to March 1) is \$60

- includes all seminar sessions, Friday night banquet, and Saturday's luncheon**
(After March 1 admission price is \$65. After March 23 admission price is \$75.)
Admission for Friday only is \$35 which includes the kick-off banquet
Admission for Saturday only is \$40 which includes breakfast and lunch

On Friday, March 25, at the seminar there will be a silent auction of Civil War items to benefit the National Civil War Chaplains Museum.
During the seminar, there will also be Civil War vendors and displays for the public.

• Lodging: Seminar attendees can choose to stay at either the Wingate Hotel or Gays Inn and receive special LU Civil War Seminar rates. •

2011 Civil War Seminar contact information: 434-592-4366 or klburdeaux@liberty.edu

May 7th-2011
“Storm Over Suffolk”

The Sesquicentennial Celebration in Suffolk Begins

Volunteer and be part of History in the making!

Please come and be a part of this Event.

The event begins at 9 am at Riddick's Folly House Museum on Main Street in Suffolk with actors in the house and guided tours, soldiers drilling, cavalry getting their horses ready to depart and civilians signing up to serve.

In the afternoon, the soldiers will march down Main Street to the train station with a re-enactor giving the actual speech that was given to the soldiers in May of 1861 in that very spot.

“To be Eligible for any of the gratuities offered to Volunteers”

You must be signed up as a Volunteer in Period Dress



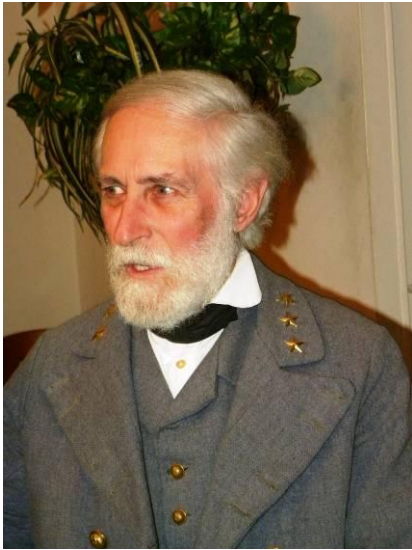


Celebrations are due; Wal-Mart Stores Inc. is dropping plans to build a store near a key Civil War battlefield in northern Virginia.

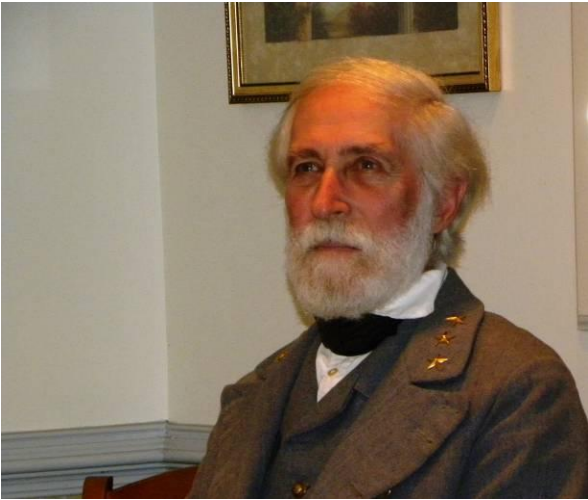
Lawyers announced the Arkansas-based retailer's Wednesday in Orange County Circuit Court, where a judge had planned to hear more pretrial motions in a lawsuit challenging the project.

Wal-Mart had planned to build a 143,000-square-foot Supercenter near the site of the Battle of the Wilderness, which is viewed by historians as a critical turning point when the Civil War started to turn in favor of the North. An estimated 185,000 Union and Confederate troops fought over three days in 1864, and 30,000 were killed, injured or went missing. The war ended 11 months later.





At Left and Right:
Mr. Al Stone as General
Robert E. Lee.



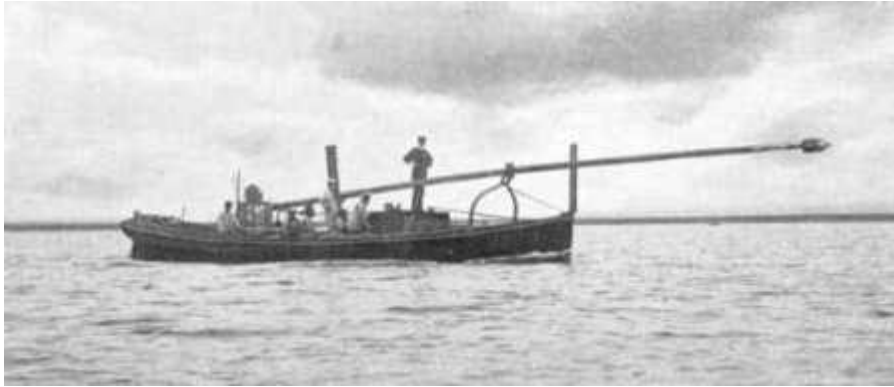
At Left: Compatriot
Simmons speaking with
Compatriot Al Stone (Gen.
Lee)



Top Right: Cakes made in Honor of Confederate
Heroes. **Top Right:** Compatriot Stone receiving
ornament from Norfolk County Grays.

Inventions made during War Between the States

SPAR



==Invention==

The spar torpedo was invented during the War Between the States by E. C. Singer, a private engineer who worked on secret projects for the benefit of the Confederate States of America, (Singer was the nephew of Isaac Singer, inventor of the sewing machine). Singer's torpedo was detonated by means of a trigger mechanism adapted from a rifle lock. The spring-loaded trigger was detonated by means of a long cord attached to the attacking vessel. The attacking vessel rammed its target, embedding the barbed torpedo in its hull, and then backed off. When the attacker reached the limit of the trigger cord, the torpedo was detonated.

==Use==

The most famous use of a spar torpedo was on the Confederate States of America Confederate submarine H. L. Hunley (submarine)|H. L. Hunley, which managed to sink the Union screw sloop USS Housatonic (1861)|USS Housatonic on February 17, 1864, although the Hunley was lost. Spar torpedoes were also used on the CSS David -class of semi-submersible attack boats.

At night on October 27/28, 1864, Lieutenant William B. Cushing employed a spar torpedo to sink the Confederate ironclad ram CSS Albemarle. Because the Confederate navy was tiny, the sinking of the "Albemarle" was the Union navy's only successful sinking of a Confederate vessel by torpedo. Lieutenant Cushing employed a spar torpedo designed by John Louis Lay.

Spar torpedoes were also used on small wooden launches in the late 19th century, although they were not very useful weapons. The locomotive torpedo (what we think of today as a torpedo replaced the spar torpedo as a weapon for submarines and small boats in the 1870s.

CSS David (submarine)

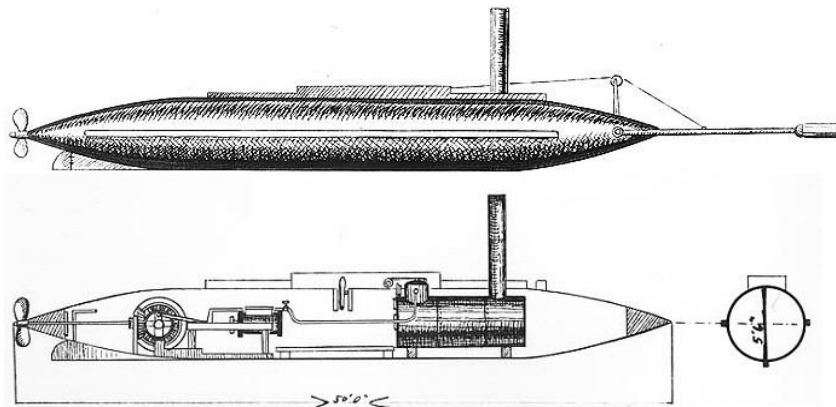


CSS *David* was built as a private venture by T. Stoney at Charleston, South Carolina in 1863 and put under the control of the Confederate States Navy. The cigar-shaped boat carried a 60- or 70-pound explosive charge on the end of a spar projecting forward from her bow. Designed to operate very low in the water, *David* resembled in general a submarine she was, however, strictly a surface vessel. Operating on dark nights, and using anthracite coal which burns without smoke, "David" was nearly as hard to see as a true submarine.

On the night of October 5, 1863, *David*, commanded by Lieutenant William T. Glassell, CSN, slipped down Charleston Harbor to attack the casemated ironclad steamer USS *New Ironsides*. The torpedo boat approached undetected until she was within 50 yards of the blockader. Hailed by the watch on board *New Ironsides*, Glassell replied with a blast from a shotgun and *David* plunged ahead to strike. Her spar torpedo detonated under the starboard quarter of the ironclad, throwing high a column of water which rained back upon the Confederate vessel and put out her boiler fires. Her engine dead, *David* hung under the quarter of *New Ironsides* while small arms fire from the Federal ship spattered the water around the torpedo boat.

Believing that their vessel was sinking, Glassell and two others abandoned her; the pilot, Walker Cannon, who could not swim, remained on board. A short time later, Assistant Engineer J. H. Tomb swam back to the craft and climbed on board. Rebuilding the fires, Tomb succeeded in getting *David's* engine working again, and with Cannon at the wheel, the torpedo boat steamed up the channel to safety. Glassell and Seaman James Sullivan, *David's* fireman, were captured. *New Ironsides*, though not sunk, was seriously damaged by the explosion. US Navy casualties were Acting Ensign C.W.Howard (died of gunshot wound), Seaman William L. Knox (legs broken) and Master at Arms Thomas Little (contusions).

The next 4 months of *David's* existence are obscure. She or other torpedo boats tried more attacks on Union blockaders; reports from different ships claim three such attempts, all unsuccessful, during the remainder of October 1863. On March 6, 1864, *David* attacked USS *Memphis* in the North Edisto River. The torpedo boat struck the blockader first on the port quarter, but the torpedo did not explode. *Memphis* slipped her chain, at the same time firing ineffectively at *David* with small arms. Putting about, the torpedo boat struck *Memphis* again, this time a glancing blow on the starboard quarter; once more the torpedo misfired. Since *Memphis* had now opened up with her heavy guns, *David*, having lost part of her stack when rammed, retreated up the river out of range. *Memphis*, uninjured, resumed her blockading station.



David's last confirmed action came on April 18, 1864 when she tried to sink the screw frigate USS *Wabash*. Alert lookouts on board the blockader sighted *David* in time to permit the frigate to slip her chain, avoid the attack, and open fire on the torpedo boat. Neither side suffered any damage.

The ultimate fate of *David* is uncertain. Several torpedo boats of this type fell into Union hands when Charleston was captured in February 1865. *David* may well have been among them.

Additional pictures of the “David”



Articles and pictures from “Wikipedia

Location of Gus & George's Spaghetti & Steak Restaurant
Meetings begin at 7:00 PM



To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit the vindication of the Cause for which we fought; to your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name. The guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles he loved and which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Remember that it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations.

Lt. Gen. Stephen Dill Lee
Commander General
United Confederate Veterans
1906

Please submit requests or items of interest to: ncg1549@cox.net, no later than the 6th of the month in which you'd like your newsletter submission to appear. Thank you!