



# "CONFEDERATE GRAYS"

Newsletter of the Norfolk County Grays



SCV Camp No. 1549

Volume 2

Issue 9

September 2010

## Officers

Mark Johnson  
Commander

Frank Earnest  
Lt. Commander

Bill Mixon  
Adjutant

Kenzy Joyner  
Color Sergeant

Frank Earnest  
Public Relations Officer

Thomas Simmons  
Treasurer

David Brimer  
Chaplain

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Contact information:

Mark B. Johnson, *Cmdr*

## Next Meeting

September 15, 2010

7:00 pm

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

## Guest Speaker:

**Kenny Harris**

Mr. Kenny Harris is present Va. Div 1st Brigade Commander and Past Commander of the Princess Anne Camp. Mr. Harris is a member of the Major Edgar Burroughs M. O. S. and B. Chapter. (Major Edgar Burroughs was Mr. Harris ancestor) Commander Harris is a Princess Anne County Historian and author of the book:

"Princess Anne County, Virginia.

Its Contributions and Sacrifices to the War Between the States.



## October 20 2010 Meeting

### Speaker:

**J. Corey Thornton**

Mr. Thornton is Curator of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Museum and Lightship Portsmouth Museum. He will present a power point program on the Gosport Naval Yard during the War Between the States.



## NEWSLETTER Name

At the August 2010 Camp meeting, the members in attendance established "Confederate Grays" as the name of the monthly newsletter of the Norfolk County Grays, SCV Camp #1549. As previously mentioned, the "Confederate Grays" is an excellent way to share information that could be of interest to the other members of the camp. We are still looking for brief biographies of our ancestors or other information to share.

**Highlights of August 2010 Camp Meeting Speaker:**

***Jeff Toalson***

**“Send Me a Pair of Old Boots & Kiss My Little Girls”**

*The Civil War Letters of Richard and Mary Watkins, 1861-1865*

Mr. Jeff Toalson treated all those in attendance at the August camp meeting by carrying us back in time to the turn of the century with his first- person impression of Richard Watkins.

Mr. Toalson found over 300 letters in the Virginia Historical penned by Richard and Mary Watkins during the war years. These letters give the reader a detailed view of military life and home life as witnessed during a critical time of American history.

This book is one that I would suggest being added to your personal library.



Jeff Toalson as Richard Watkins



## UPCOMING EVENTS



**Wednesday, September 15, 2010** Norfolk County Grays Monthly Meeting

**Saturday, September 25, 2010 (8AM to 1PM)** The Norfolk County Grays/Neimeyer/Shaw chapter is having a yard sale to raise money to support their chapter.

**Suffolk Peanut Festival** – Thursday, October 7, Friday October 8, Saturday October 9 and Sunday October 10, 2010

**Friday, October 8, 2010, 6:30 PM,** Memorial Service for General William Mahone  
Memorial Gazebo, Blandford Cemetery, Petersburg, Virginia

**Saturday, October 9, 2010, 11:00 AM,** Point Lookout Memorial Service  
Point Lookout Cemetery, Maryland

**Tuesday, October 12, 2010, 7:30 pm,** Portsmouth Civil War Round Table Meeting  
Broad Street Methodist Church, Portsmouth, Va.  
Compatriot Donald Smith will be speaking on Songs that Confederate soldiers loved to sing.

**Wednesday, October 20, 2010** Norfolk County Grays Monthly Meeting

**Driver Days** - Oct 23 and 24, 2010 Saturday and Sunday

**Saturday, January 7, 2011,** Princess Ann Camp, Lee -Jackson Banquet (See Newsletter for additional details)

**Saturday, January 15, 2011,** Norfolk County Grays, Lee -Jackson Banquet (Additional details in newsletter)



## “INTELLIGENCE IS A WEAPON OF SELF-DEFENCE”

In the September / October 2010 issue of the “*Confederate Veteran*”, Commander-In- Chief, R. Michael Givens commented in “Report of the Commander - In – Chief” stated that, **“I have told you over the past few years to remember that intelligence is a weapon of self-defense. If we don’t know our own history, then we will be helpless and ignorant before someone who merely claims to know our history!”**

During the next two years the “*Confederate Veteran*” will contain articles which will address issues which deal with the various issues that the South had to contend with; such as ***Secession, Economic motives for the invasion by the North, Slavery, Constitutional Amendments, War Crimes, Lincoln Myths, Reconstruction, the South Today and Tomorrow*** as well as other topics. Commander-In –Chief, R. Michael Givens is planning on placing all 12 essays that are going to be published in a book to be used for years to come, in which the true story of the South is revealed.

I have found that after reading the first installment, the things I thought I knew and understood, I actually found out that I really did not. If the remainder of the articles is as informative as the first one, they will provide us as SCV members the chance to be called up in columns of 4, at the double quick, so as to reinforce the valiant cause of the Southern soldiers formed in line of battle.

## CONGRATULATIONS



**“Commendation Medal”** presented to Commander of Norfolk County Grays, M. Johnson, in recognition of meritorious service at the Camp, Brigade, or Division Level by Virginia Division Heritage Defense Coordinator, Tom Davis (left) and Army of Northern Virginia Commander, B. Frank Earnest (right).

## FROM THE DESK OF THE ADJUTANT

Most everyone should have received their "**Membership Dues Invoice**" by now. However, if you haven't received one by the September meeting, please let the Adjutant know by the next meeting.

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There have been a couple of members who have torn part of their invoice off before mailing it back. Please do not do that, return the entire invoice.

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The Camp would like to thank those members who have remitted extra funds when they submitted their camp dues. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

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For anyone who is a **Dual Member** of a camp, either the Norfolk County Grays camp or some other, you will not find your "**Dual Camps Dues**" on the invoice. It will be up to you to get with the Adjutant of the Norfolk County Grays (Bill Mixon [757] 826-8644) or the Adjutant of the other camp in order to pay your dues and thus remain a member in good standing.

### **History of Norfolk County Va. 1861-1865**

***By John W.H. Porter***

On the morning of May 10th, 1862, the company abandoned the battery by order of General Huger and formed the rear guard of the troops as they fell back upon Norfolk, crossed the ferry to Portsmouth and was the last command which left that city by rail, being moved out on flat cars late in the afternoon. Only one company remained after the departure of the Jackson Grays, namely, the Portsmouth Rifle Company, and they marched out of the city to Suffolk.

It is with a heavy heart that the members of the Norfolk County Grays are notified that Cathleen C. Davis, wife of Compatriot James Davis, Jr. went to be with the Lord on September 2, 2010. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Davis family and friends during this most difficult of times.

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

Color Sergeant Kenzy Joyner was recently recognized for having served during the Vietnam war and was presented with the **SCV Service Medal** for being deployed in a war zone (Vietnam).



**2011 NORFOLK COUNTY GRAYS  
“LEE-JACKSON” DINNER**

Fellow compatriots, make plans to celebrate the 2<sup>nd</sup> Norfolk County Grays “Lee-Jackson” dinner, to be held Saturday, January 15, 2011 at Gus & George’s Spaghetti & Steak Restaurant.

General Robert E. Lee (portrayed by Al Stone) will provide an inside look of how our ancestors who fought and suffered for what they believed in.

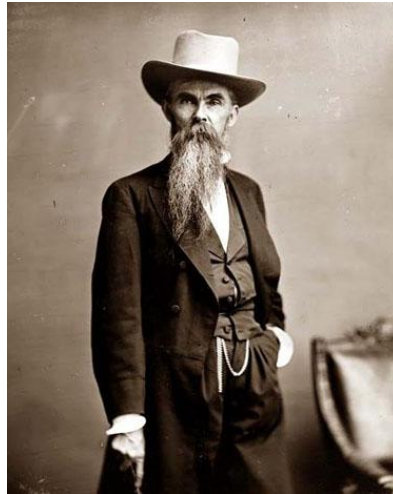
Flyers with additional information will be available at the next camp meeting.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR

**GENERAL WILLIAM MAHONE**

**Friday, October 8, 2010, 6:30 PM** at

Confederate Memorial Gazebo, Blandford Cemetery,  
Petersburg, Virginia



CELEBRATE THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF  
PRE-WAR BUSINESS MAN, WARTIME HERO, AND POST WAR POLITICIAN

**GENERAL WILLIAM MAHONE**

THERE WILL BE A MILITARY SALUTE AND  
WREATH LAYING CEREMONY AT THE *MAHONE MAUSOLEUM*



## **DID YOU KNOW????**

**An Englishman by the name of Captain Charles Murray, later to be known as Lord Dunmore, served on board a blockade-runner and then went on to serve on General Lee's staff. He was a direct descendent of the last Royal Governor of Virginia. ["The Blessed Place of Freedom: Europeans in Civil War America" By Dean B. Mahin]**



**A young Confederate officer, Captain S. Isadore Guillet, was fatally shot on the same horse on which three of his brothers had been previously killed. He willed the animal to a nephew as he died. ["The Civil War: Strange & Fascinating Facts", by Burke Davis]**



**During the Battle of Chickamauga, where there were over 27,000 casualties, 4,000 resulting from death, there is only one soldier buried on the battlefield today. His name is Pvt. John Ingraham, he served in the First Confederate Regiment of the Georgia Volunteers. An orphan, he was buried by his comrades where he fell and remained there despite the removal of all the other known bodies during development of the battlefield park.**



**Legend has it that George Pickett's West Point appointment was secured for him by Abraham Lincoln, but this is largely believed to be a story circulated by his widow following his death. Lincoln, as an Illinois state legislator, could not nominate candidates, although he did give the young man advice after he was accepted into the academy. Pickett was actually appointed by Illinois Congressman John T. Stuart, a friend of Pickett's uncle and a law partner of Abraham Lincoln.**



## Recent Pictures

During the next few months, the Newsletter will include pictures made available to the camp by members. If you have photos that can be loaded electronically, please contact Kent Haskett (k\_haskett@cox.net) so that he can obtain copies which will be included in future newsletters.



2009 Virginia State Fair



2009 Virginia State Fair



2009 Virginia State Fair



2009 Peanut Festival



2009 Peanut Festival



2009 Camp Awards Meeting

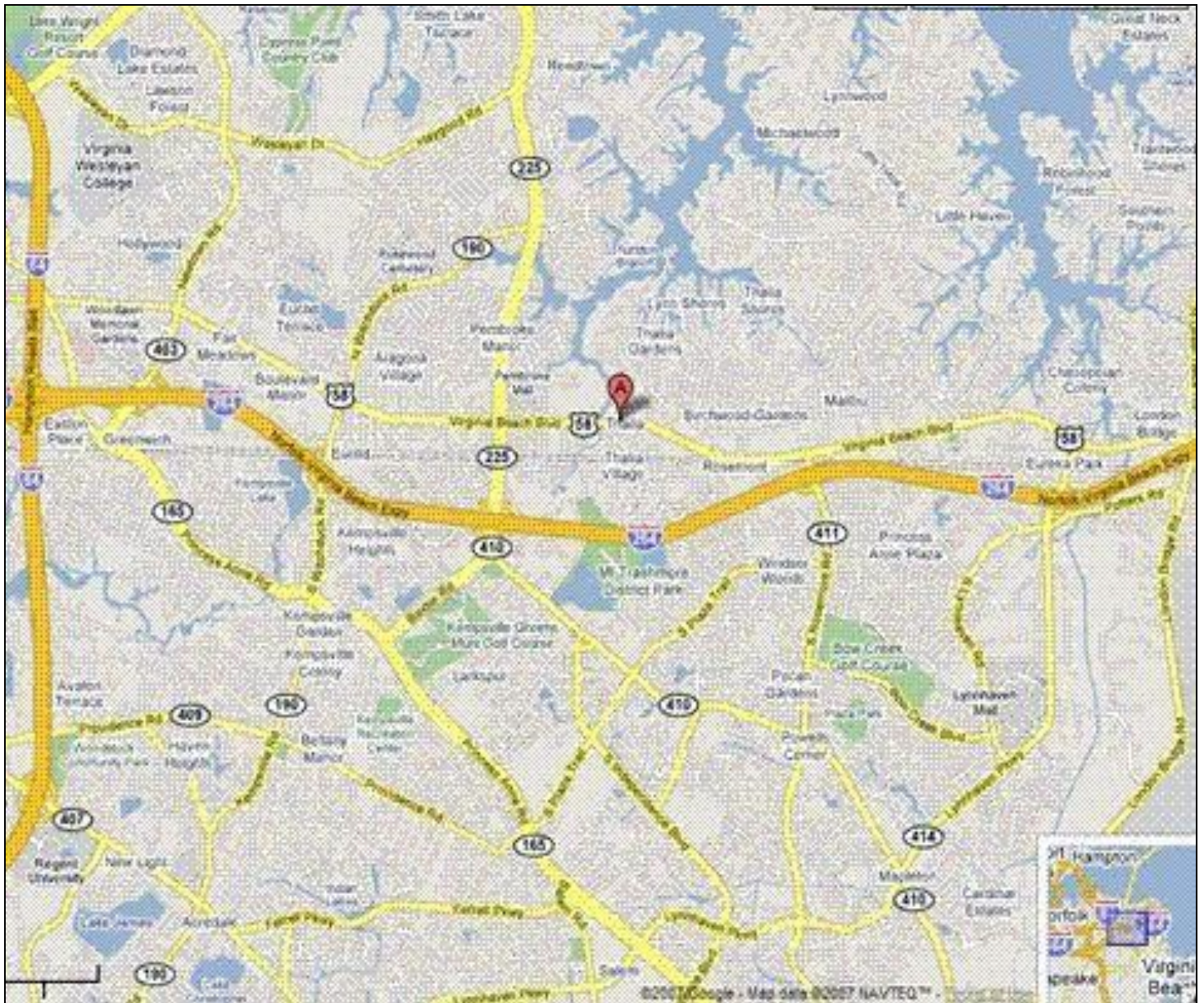


2009 Camp Awards Meeting



2009 Camp Awards Meeting

**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**