



## Newsletter Sons of Confederate Veterans

Norfolk County Grays

Camp No. 1549

Volume 2

Issue 8

August 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

.....  
Contact information:

Mark B. Johnson, *Cmdr*

**Next Meeting**  
**August 18, 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:**  
**Jeff Toalson**

Editor of "*Send Me a Pair of Old Boots & Kiss My Little Girls, The Civil War letters of Richard and Mary Watkins*".  
Mr. Toalson will have books available for purchased.



**September 15, 2010 Meeting**

**Speaker:**

Kenny Harris, Va. Div 1st Brigade Commander and Past Commander of the Princess Anne Camp. Mr. Harris is also a Princess Anne County Historian and author of the book:

*Princess Anne County, Virginia.*  
*Its Contributions and Sacrifices to the War Between the States.*



### **NEWSLETTER Names for Consideration**

At the July Camp meeting, several names were submitted for consideration as the name of the camp's newsletter. The following have been submitted as of this time:

- "*Confederate Grays*"
- "*The St. Brides Dispatch*", "*Remembering the Men of the Jackson Greys*"
- "*The Sewell's Point Defender*"
- "*The Norfolk County Volunteer Dispatch*"
- "*The Norfolk County Patriot*"

### **Compatriot Wilbur Simmons Honored**

It has pleased Almighty God, the Great Commander, to summon to his immortal legions our beloved comrade Wilbur Simmons. We humbly bow to the will of Divine Providence, while ever cherishing in our hearts the memory of his distinguished service to the Sons of Confederate Veterans, which he honorably and faithfully served for many years. Let it be known that the Norfolk County Grays, Camp 1549 does mourn the passing of our comrade and compatriot and that we commend to all men his works, and to God his spirit.

### **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

**Saturday and Sunday August 14, 15, 2010**

**Gloucester, Virginia**

***Last General Muster of 21<sup>st</sup> Virginia Militia Regiment***

**Wednesday August 18, 2010** Norfolk County Grays Monthly Meeting

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

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

**October 12, 2010, Tuesday, 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**

### **Highlights of July 2010 Camp Meeting Speaker:** **Lee's Last Casualty: The Life and Letters of** **Sergeant Robert W. Parker, Second Virginia Cavalry**

Catherine Wright provides a valuable introduction in her book that illuminates not only these particular letters but also the many roles of correspondence during the Civil War. She points out how women-in this case, Parker's wife and his mother-made sure that men in the ranks understood that more than politics or manly honor was at stake in fighting the Yankees. Parker believed that the war was a supreme test in which God would look deep into the souls of Northerners and Southerners. His private beliefs informed his public views on how Southerners should act as citizens of a Confederate nation. People of all classes, Parker reasoned, had to give themselves to country and to God if Southern armies were to succeed on the battlefield. Parker's steadfastness was surely due in part to the words of his family, who instilled in him "just cause" to continue fighting.

The letters assembled in this extraordinarily rich collection were written by Robert W. Parker, an enlisted Confederate cavalryman who is thought to have been the last man killed in action in the Army of Northern Virginia during the Civil War. He is representative of the Confederate Everyman: a modest farmer in the

## Continuation of review

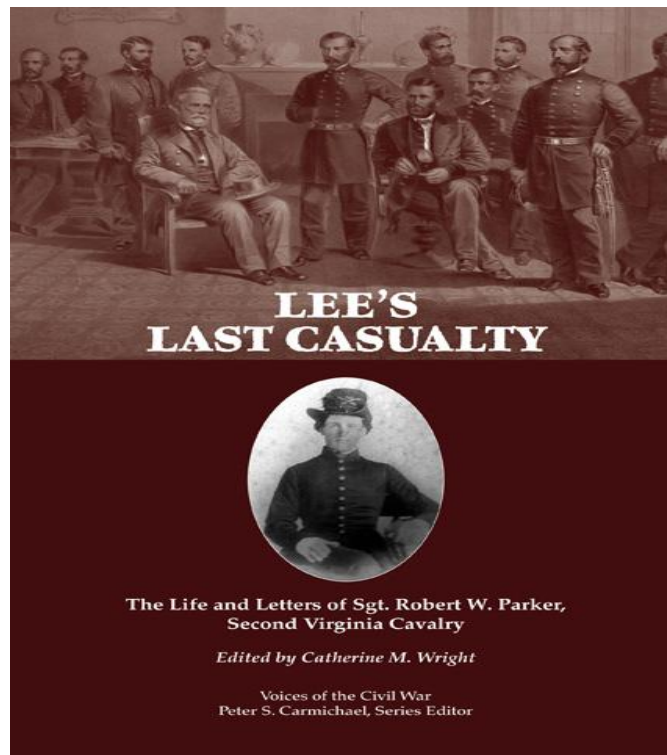
antebellum years, his patriotic fervor spurred him at the beginning of the war to enlist in the Confederate Army, in which he served until his death during the last charge at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865.

For students of the enlisted soldiers who fought in the “War of Late Unpleasantness” this book described his life as an enlisted soldier in the Second Regiment Virginia Cavalry. His letters reveal how local communities worked together to provide the necessary stuff of war to soldiers, from food and clothing to moral support. They also show the importance of correspondence and religion in sustaining Confederate morale and nationalism.

**Reviewer:** Michael Russert

Michael Russert, a member of the North Shore Round Table of Long Island and the Company of Military Historians, has a MALS plus 60 hours in American Studies. He is Coordinator of The New York State Veteran Oral History Program.

This review is from the “*February/March 2009 Issue of the Civil War News.*”



## *Newly Elected SCV Officers*

The Norfolk County Grays congratulate the following:

R. Michael Givens elected as **National Commander in Chief**

Charles Kelly Barrow elected as **National Lt. Commander in Chief**

B. Frank Earnest, Norfolk County Grays Charter Member, as **Army of Northern Virginia Commander.**





***SATURDAY – SUNDAY***  
***August 14, 15, 2010***  
***Re-enactment of Last General Muster of 21<sup>st</sup> Virginia Militia Regiment***  
***Historic Court Green***  
***Gloucester, Va.***

Saturday August 14, 2010 – 10 am to 5 pm  
Sunday August 15, 2010—10 am to 3 pm

The camp will have a booth set up in the Old Town Square near the Confederate monument. B. Frank Earnest, **The Newly Elected** Commander of the Army of Northern Virginia, will be speaking and Past Commander John Pellitier will have his Medical tent set up.

If you plan on attending this event, the Gloucester County Sesquicentennial Committee believes that you will enjoy this re-enactment of the "Last General Muster of the 21<sup>st</sup> Virginia Militia Regiment", and be witness to a snap shot of Gloucester's Civil War heritage.

Period clothing is welcomed and encouraged. This event is sponsored by the Gloucester County Sesquicentennial Committee and the United Daughters of the Confederacy - Rebecca Lloyd Tabb Chapter

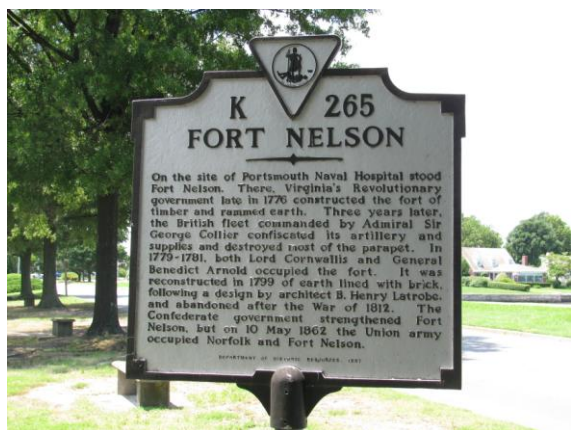


## History of Norfolk County Va. 1861-1865

By John W.H. Porter

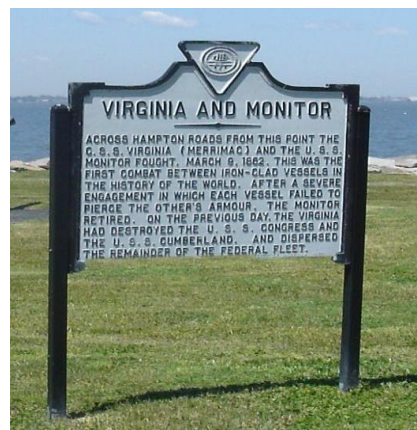
At its own request, the **61<sup>st</sup> VA. Company A, "Jackson Greys,"** left the batteries at the Naval Hospital and went to SEWELL'S POINT where they were put in charge of a Battery of six heavy rifled guns of six-inch caliber. During the Battle of the Ironclads on March 8 & 9, 1862, this battery took part in the engagement.

Submitted by Bill Mixon



Fort Nelson / Portsmouth Naval Hospital

<http://www.hmdb.org/>



Sewell's Point (Massey Hughes Drive)

<http://www.hmdb.org/>

## Princess Ann Camp #484 Military Care Package Update

As discussed previously, Princess Ann Camp #484 is providing care packages to several platoons of soldiers stationed overseas. The following items have been identified as items that the soldiers can use:

*Don't forget that there are women in the platoon*

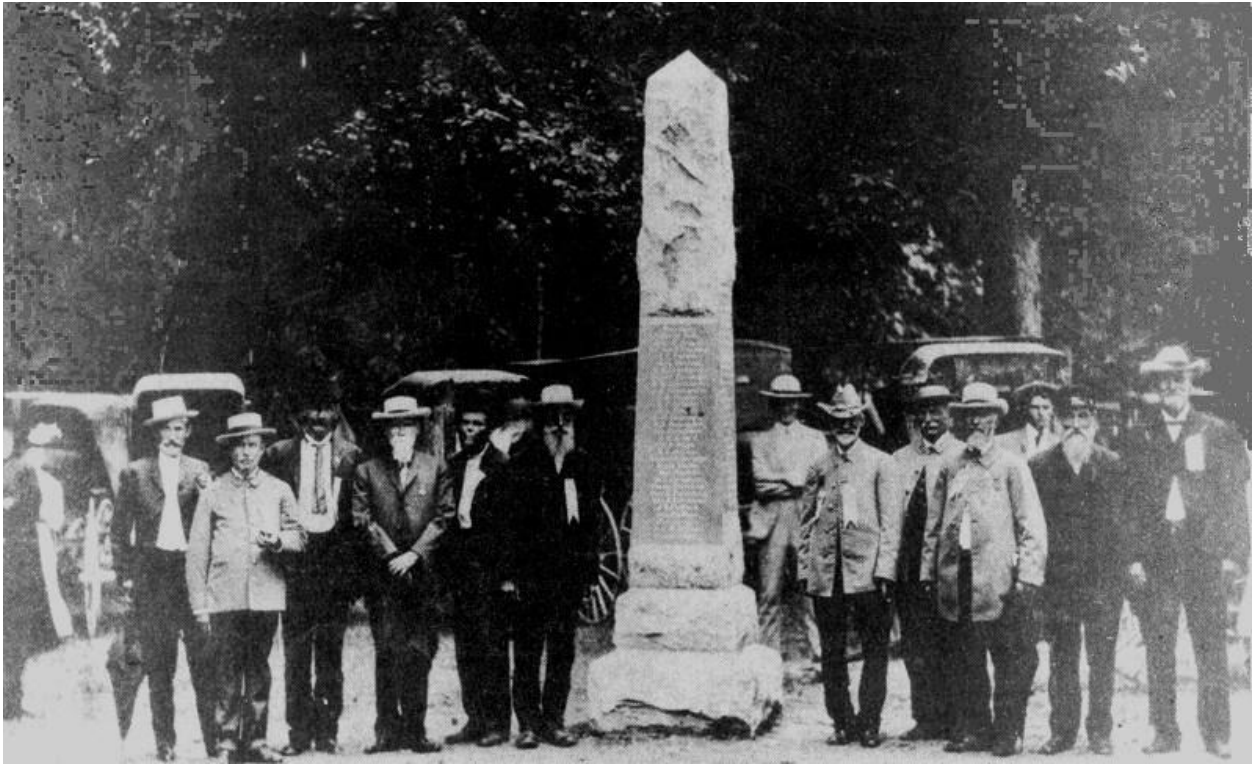
M&M's	Bubble Gum	Powdered Drink Mix
Disposable Razors	Beef Jerky/Slim Jims Snacks,	Chips, Cookies
Q-tips	Hard Candy	Envelopes/Paper
Blistex, Vaseline,	Sun Block Microwave Popcorn	Batteries AA, AAA
Soap	CD/DVD Movies and Music	Shaving Cream (Non-Aerosol)
Small Stuffed Animals/Toys	Tooth Brushes Toothpaste	

There will be a box designated for "**Military Care Packages**" at the August and September camp meetings for donations.





## *Pictures from the "PAST"*



**CONFEDERATE MONUMENT** - This picture of Confederate soldiers, snapped in 1905 at the unveiling of the Confederate Monument at the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Hickory, has been obtained by church officials in an effort to find out more about the historic monument. Mrs. Ralph Smithson, Route 2, Chesapeake, has spent the last year searching the records for additional records. She has identified all of the gentlemen in the picture except one. All are members of Jackson Grey's regiment from Lower Norfolk County. The men in the picture were soldiers in the regiment when it camped for ten days in 1861 at the present site of the monument.

From left to right are Dr. H. S. Etheridge, Carey Foreman, J. N. Wood, W. A. West, J. W. Creekmore, Alex Lee, Leroy West, Capt. William H. Stewart, Tom West, Caleb Hodges and the man in the big white hat on the right is still unknown.  
*Published in the Chesapeake Post, July 8, 1965, Chesapeake, VA.*

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

Famous Southerner and NASCAR great, Richard Petty, is never seen without his trademark hat and sunglasses. However, while visiting Lexington, Virginia and visiting General Lee's tomb....he removed both.





## 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.



**Fred Harrell, Recipient of the 2009 Norfolk County Grays Most Dedicated Compatriot Award**



**Chaplin David Brimer**



**1<sup>st</sup> Lee - Jackson Banquet (Jan 16, 2010) Color Guard  
L -R (B. Shirley, K. Joyner, T. Simmons, Dr. M. Reed, and  
J. Curtin)**



**Actor and Period Historian, Patrick Falci, 2010  
Lee - Jackson Banquet Guest Speaker; shown with  
Mr. & Mrs. B. Frank Earnest.**

