

# CIVIL WAR LODGE OF RESEARCH #1865 A.F.&A.M.



Chartered  
November 14th, 1995

9638 Park Street, Manassas, VA 20110 | (571) 271-2730 | [www.cwlr.org](http://www.cwlr.org) | Email: [hart.bennett@gmail.com](mailto:hart.bennett@gmail.com)

## Incoming Worshipful Master's Message

Brethren,

The next CWLR 1865 meeting will be in Farmville Virginia at Farmville Lodge #41 Lodge (201 Catlin Street on December 2nd 2023). The meeting will include the Election and Installation of Officers. The itinerary for the weekend can be found on the other side of this page. Lodging at the recently renovated Days Inn is reasonably priced. There are several hotels in the South Main Street area also. Coffee and donuts will be in the lodge social hall prior to the meeting. Lunch will be catered in pulled pork BBQ, baked beans, cole slaw, rolls and desert. We have several Civil war attractions available: Sailors Creek was the last major battle before surrender and during which the confederacy lost 1\5th of its army. The Battle of High Bridge was a cavalry battle on the outskirts of Farmville. We also have available the Confederate cemetery on the north edge of town and the Battle of Cumberland Church about 6 miles north of Farmville on route 45, which was the last major conflict before the surrender at Appomattox.

We hope to see you all out in Farmville!

Sincerely & Fraternaly,  
Brother John Butler, Senior Warden  
302-312-3567  
[2b1ask1jhn@gmail.com](mailto:2b1ask1jhn@gmail.com)

## Outgoing Worshipful Master's Message

Brethren,

As this is my last message for my year as your Worshipful Master, I will keep it short and sweet. I want to express my humble thanks for allowing me to serve our Lodge this year. It truly has been a great experience. Thank you to all the Officers and Past Masters who have helped, guided, instructed, and filled in chairs throughout the year. I hope you all enjoyed this year and the places we went. I also hope I never offended anyone with all my "Maryland Ritual" coming through from time to time. I take great pride in our Masonic Ritual and never mean any disrespect by the way it is presented. I look forward to a great and fun-filled 2024 and wish all the incoming Officers all the best. Again, thank you all from the bottom of my heart for a great year.

Brother Andrew N Wilson, Worshipful Master  
410-241-4100  
[hornet350@yahoo.com](mailto:hornet350@yahoo.com)

### Call for Papers!

Brethren, if you are interested in preparing a paper for 2025, please drop Brother Secretary ([hart.bennett@gmail.com](mailto:hart.bennett@gmail.com)) a note. We will happily get you involved

## Trestleboard

Itinerary for our December 2nd 2023 meeting

**Lodging: Days In by Wyndam Farmville**

2015 South Main Street, Farmville, VA, 23901

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/days-inn/farmville-virginia/days-inn-farmville/overview?CID=LC:iqv0j1dklijv45:05498>

**Friday, December 1st**

**Dinner 6:00 pm - The County Grille**

1506 0 St, Farmville, VA 23901

(434) 394-2244

**Saturday, December 2nd**

**Farmville Lodge #41**

201 Catlin St, Farmville, VA 23901

9:00 am – coffee and donuts

10:00 am – Lodge meeting

11:30 am – Lunch (catered BBQ)

Afternoon – Lodge's Choice of Destinations (one, few, or all):

**The Battle of Cumberland Church** (8 mins away)

(near 1835 Cumberland Rd, Farmville, VA 23901)

**Farmville Confederate Cemetery** (5 mins away)

835 Longstreet Rd, Farmville, VA 23901

**The Battle of Highbridge** (15 mins away)

1466 Camp Paradise Rd, Rice, VA 23966

(Highbridge Trail State Park)

**Sailor's Creek Battlefield** (15 mins away)

6541 Saylers Creek Road, Rice, VA 23966

<https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/sailors-creek>

**Dinner 6 pm - The Fishin' Pig**

1807 S Main St, Farmville, VA 23901

(434) 223-3287

[www.thefishinpig.com](http://www.thefishinpig.com)

or back to The County Grille (depends on crowd size at The Fishin' Pig)

## 2024 CWLR Schedule

April 13 – Mebane, NC -Bennett Place Surrender Site

July 13 – Delaware City, DE – Ft. Delaware Prison

October 12 – Annapolis, MD – US Naval Academy

December 7 – At Incoming Master's Choice

Worshipful Master- Andrew Nottingham Wilson PM

## 2024 OFFICERS SLATE

Worshipful Master- John Howard Butler PM/PDDGM  
 Senior Warden- Creighton Lee Lovelace PM  
 Junior Warden- William Chester Hare, Jr.  
 Treasurer- Mark Stephen Lentz  
 Secretary- Bennett Richard Hart PM  
 Senior Deacon- Alan James Hawk  
 Junior Deacon- Cliton C. White  
 Chaplain- Wayne Eugene Price PM / PDDGM  
 Tyler- Gary Lloyd Laing PM  
 Marshal- Richard Wayne Burkman PM  
 Senior Steward- David Edward Simcox  
 Junior Steward- To Be Determined  
 Ritual- Wayne Eugene Price PM/PDDGM  
 Editor- G. Andrew Martinez PM  
**District Deputy Grand Master Shelby L. Chandler II**

**MOST WORSHIPFUL**

**JACK KAYLE LEWIS**

**GRAND MASTER OF MASONS IN VIRGINIA**

### Passed to the Celestial Lodge Above 2023

Robert Brandenburg  
 Byron Schull  
 Robert Stutz  
 Allen Beddoe  
 Keith Harrison  
 Clark Van Buskirk



### Call for Officers!

Brethren, if you are interested in serving as a Line Officer for our Civil War Research Lodge for 2025, please drop Brother Secretary (hart.bennett@gmail.com ) a note. We will happily get you involved!

### **October 21, 2023 From Hamilton-Thompson Lodge #37**



Every member of our #1865 lodge who could not attend was sorely missed – we love you Brothers! From wherever you may hail!

### PAST MASTERS

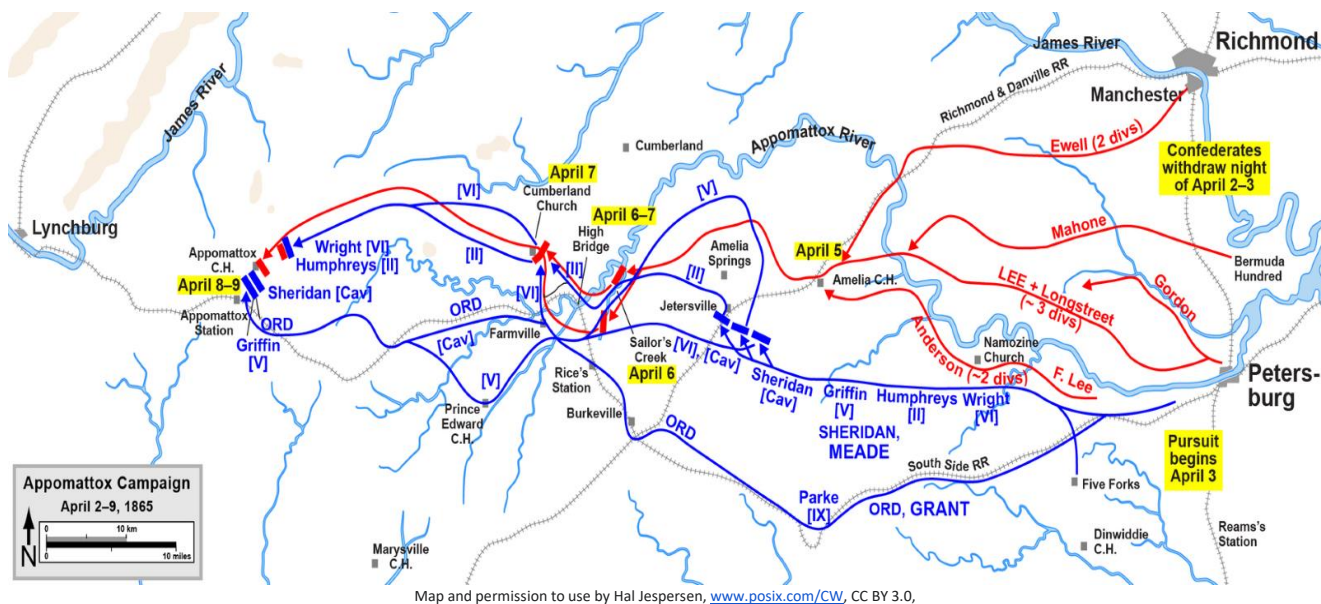
1995 – Allen E. Roberts \* (VA)  
 1996 – Keith A. Hinerman (VA)  
 1997 & 1998 – Paul M. Bessel (DC)  
 1999 – David J. Roberts (VA)  
 2000 – Robert E. Schindler, Sr. (VA)\*  
 2001 – Michael E. McCabe (NJ)  
 2002 – Charles R. Joseph \* (MD)  
 2003 – John Shroeder (VA)\*  
 2004 – Lauris M. Eek, III \* (VA)  
 2005 – Gary L. Laing, (DE)  
 2006 – Stephen M. Whitaker (SC)  
 2007 – Michael E. McCabe \* (NJ)  
 2008 – J. Sherrell Hurley (NC)  
 2009 – Wayne E. Price (VA)  
 2010 – M Phillip Brown (NY & DE)  
 2011 – Raymond “Mickey” Moats (VA)  
 2012 & 2013 – Gary L. Laing (DE)  
 2014 – Wayne E. Price (VA)  
 2015 – Peter S. Jensen (VA)  
 2016 – Chris R. Chrzanowski (VA)  
 2017 & 2018 – Bennett R. Hart (VA)  
 2019 – Richard W. Burkman (MD)  
 2020 & 2021 – G. Andrew Martinez (MD)  
 2022 – Gordon Allen Munholland (MD)  
 (\* – deceased)

### HONORARY MEMBERS

MW William F. Perdue-VA  
 MW Thomas F. May- VA\*  
 John P. Westervelt - VA  
 PPGM James L. Jack- Scotland  
 PM Paul M. Bessel-MD\*  
 PM Allen E. Roberts-VA\*  
 MW Kenneth D. Fuller- DC\*  
 MW Jules Saul Temper -DC  
 MW Gregory A. Riley, Sr. -WV  
 MW Kenneth S. Wyvill, Jr.-MD  
 MW Herbert Richard Hoffman-DE  
 MW George Bernard Dungan, Jr.-VA  
 MW James Edward Litten-VA  
 MW William T. Ellison, Jr.-VA  
 MW Thomas Warren Gregory-NC\*  
 MW Vernon Stuart Cook-VA  
 MW Steven Edward Smith – RI  
 MW James Winfield Golladay, Jr.-VA  
 MW Louis Richard Youngblood-WV  
 Richard Constantino Radi\*-VA  
 MW Alan W. Adkins-VA  
 RW Wayne Eugene Price - VA  
 RW Raymond “Mickey” Moats-VA



For those that were unable to join the lunches and dinners, several of our members adjourned to Harper’s Ferry Brewing to just enjoy the view.



## Seven Days in April

In the early days of April 1865, the American Civil War was rapidly coming to an end. The map above shows very vividly the major engagements of the last few days of the war. After General Robert E. Lee withdrew from the Confederate capital of Richmond, Virginia, he retreated west under the cover of darkness during the night of April 2-3, hoping to join his remaining forces with the Army of Tennessee.

General Lee's first objective was to reassemble and supply his men at Amelia Courthouse however, when his troops arrived at Amelia on April 4-5 they found no provisions. Lee sent men out to forage and then decided headed west to Appomattox Station, where another supply train awaited him.

On April 6, the Battle of Sailor's Creek ensued and almost one quarter of Lee's retreating Confederate army was cut off by Sheridan's cavalry and elements of the 2nd and 6th Corps. Two Confederate divisions fought the 6th Corps at the creek, but were eventually driven back after the Union cavalry cut through the right of the Confederate lines. Most of these two divisions were captured or surrendered, including Lt. Gen. Richard S. Ewell and eight other general officers.

Minor battles occurred at Cumberland Church April 7<sup>th</sup> and at High Bridge, April 6-7. By this time, General Grant sent a note to Lee suggesting that it was time to surrender. Lee refused the request. On April 8, the nearby Union cavalry under General Custer captured and burned three supply trains waiting for Lee's army at the Appomattox Station. With both of the Army of the Potomac and the Army of the James converging on Appomattox and, Lee's supplies destroyed, Lee now looked west to Lynchburg, VA where more supplies awaited him.

The Union Army was closing in on Lee, all that lay between Lee and Lynchburg was Union cavalry. At this point, he sent a note to Grant saying that he did not wish to surrender, but was willing to discuss terms. There was no Union infantry initially close to support General Sheridan's cavalry, however Major General John Gibbon's 24<sup>th</sup> Corps of the Army of the James covered 30 miles within 21 hours to reach the cavalry around 4:00 a.m. on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Sheridan deployed his three divisions of cavalry along a low ridge to the southwest of Appomattox Court House.

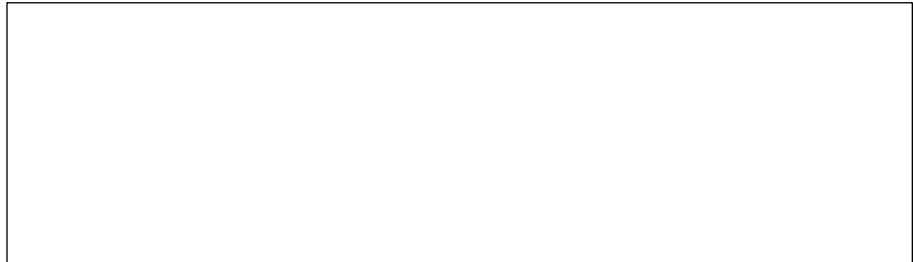
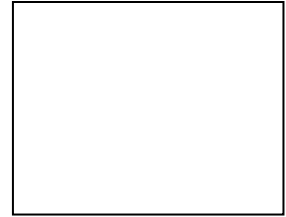
At dawn on April 9<sup>th</sup>, the Confederate Second Corps attacked Sheridan's cavalry and charged through the Union lines to take the ridge, but when they reached the crest, they saw the entire Union 24<sup>th</sup> Corps in line of battle with the Union 5<sup>th</sup> Corps to their right. Lee's cavalry immediately withdrew, riding towards Lynchburg. With Union forces all around him and, his own troops worn down, General Lee and his officers agreed that surrendering was the only option. At 8:00 a.m., Lee rode out to meet Grant, accompanied by three of his aides at which point Grant and Lee began to exchange communications.

By 11:50 a.m. Grant sent notice as to where Lee wished to discuss terms. Grant's response was remarkable in that it let Lee choose the place of his surrender. Lee received this notice and dispatched an aide to find a suitable location for the occasion - Appomattox Court House and, around 4 p.m. on April 9<sup>th</sup>, the surrender was complete. The war was over though several battles would ensue until May when word was received across the United States that the war was over.





Civil War Lodge of Research No.1865 A.F. & A.M.  
9638 Park Street  
Manassas, VA 20110



**The Rainbow Bluff Expedition**

On 9 December, the gunboat *U.S.S. Wyalusing*, moved farther up the Roanoke to capture Rainbow Bluff and a Confederate ram, rumored to be under construction at Halifax, North Carolina. While anchoring near Jamesville, North Carolina, *The Otsego*, another gunboat, struck two torpedoes (mines) and sank up to her gun deck. *The Bazely*, a tug, moved alongside *The Otsego* to offer assistance, but she, too, struck a torpedo and sank immediately. *Wyalusing* and the remainder of the expedition left the two partially sunken ships under the protection of their own unsubmerged guns and headed upriver, cautiously dragging for torpedoes as they went. By the time they had reached the point of attack, the Confederate positions at Rainbow Bluff had been so well reinforced and the approaches so heavily strewn with torpedoes that the Union ships had to abandon the enterprise. *Wyalusing* and her consorts returned to Plymouth on 28 December 1864 and resumed blockade and amphibious support duties. (Source: Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia)