



Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp #863, Conyers, Ga.

GEN. JOE'S DISPATCH



Volume 8, Issue 4

August, 2012

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Coming Events

August 14, 2012 - **Regular meeting of Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp #863** - Masonic Lodge, Conyers, Georgia

August 25, 2012 - **25th Anniversary Picnic and meeting of Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp #863** - Masonic Lodge, Conyers Georgia

September 11, 2012 - **Regular meeting of Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp #863** - Masonic Lodge, Conyers, Georgia

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25th Anniversary of Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp #863

By: J. H. Underwood, Commander



On August 28, 1987, almost 25 years ago, 20 men, all descendants of Confederate Soldiers, came together and signed the document pictured above.

The results was the forming of and first meeting of Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp #863, Sons of Confederate Veterans. There meeting place was the Philologia Masonic Lodge at 1005 Milstead Avenue in Conyers, Georgia and they still meet there today.

As of today only two of these men are still members of our camp. They are Mr. James C. Reynolds and Mr. Edward D. Gibson.

Mr. Reynolds, our first Camp Commander, (1987-1994) now resides in Colorado with his wife Alison, their daughter and grandkids. Jim was also our Brigade Commander (1990-1994) and the Georgia Division Commander (1994-1996). No one is more responsible for the success of our camp than Jim.

Mr. Ed Gibson, who was our first Sgt. at Arms, is now living in Lexington, South Carolina and although he is no longer active in our camp activities, because of the distance, he is still a member of our camp and a life member of the SCV. Ed was very involved in the construction of the Confederate Memorial Wall at the Covington cemetery and like Jim had a lot to do with the success of this camp in it's early years.

Here is a complete list of our camps first roster in the order that they signed the charter:

- Mr. James C. Reynolds, Cmdr.
- Mr. Melvin E. Stripling
- Mr. James C. Dean, 1st Lt. Cmdr.
- Mr. Carty G. Setliff, Adjutant
- Mr. William L. Bowden
- Mr. Mark E. Elliott
- Mr. Edward D. Gibson
- Mr. Thomas M. Bowden
- Mr. Randy N. Hayes
- Mr. David M. Barnes

- Mr. Ken Heller
- Mr. Larry S. Davies
- Mr. Robert Freeman Mumford
- Mr. Frank S. Jones
- Mr. James L. Simmons
- Mr. Donald K. Patterson Jr.
- Mr. James C. Watson III
- Mr. Martin Gunn
- Mr. Obie R. Moore Jr.
- Mr. Obie R. Moore III

Out of these charter members, I have been informed that James Dean, William Bowden and Obie Moore Jr. have passed away.

Of course we all know where Mr. Robert Mumford is and by the time you read this newsletter he may be the new Superior Court Judge of Rockdale County. I have addresses from old rosters for him, Thomas Bowden, Mark Elliott, Frank Jones, Donald Patterson, James Simmons, Carter Setliff, Melvin Stripling and James Watson.

If you know the status of or the addresses of any of the others please let me know. I am sending invitations to as many of the charter members as I can find to be at our upcoming 25th anniversary event.

On Saturday, August 25, 2012 we will again gather at the Philologia Masonic Lodge to honor those 20 men, their Confederate ancestors, the Philologia Masonic Lodge, and all that fought for the Confederate States of America during the War of Northern Aggression.



Our Commanders Comments

By: Commander J. H. Underwood



Compatriots;

By now you all should have received your invitations to our upcoming 25th Anniversary Picnic which will be held on Saturday, August 25, 2012. I have requested that everyone

R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, August 14th so that we will have a guest count by our regular monthly meeting that night.

Although we do not have a guest speaker for the Tuesday, August 14th meeting it is still a very important one, so please try your best to attend. The main purpose of this meeting will be to finalize the planning of the 25th Anniversary Picnic.

We need people to sign up to help set up, help Tommy and Steve with the grills and cooking, people to man the ice cream makers, and volunteers to clean up after the event. We need to set times for those who

are helping to be here so it will all be done in time for the 3:00 o'clock arrival of guest.



As you know our Georgia Division Commander, Jack Bridwell, will be our guest speaker for the 25th Anniversary event. It is an honor to have Commander Bridwell

address our camp and I know you will all join me in giving him a big "Southern" welcome to Conyers.

In addition to the planning session, our Tuesday, August 14th meeting has another very important element. We will have another induction ceremony as Adjutant Steve Camp has informed me the membership certificate for my friend Mr. Bob Brown has arrived from SCV headquarters.

It will be an honor to lead the initiation ceremony to welcome Bob to our ranks. I have known Bob for many years and I know he will be a great addition to the camp. Join me in welcoming Bob as the newest member of Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler Camp #863 and to the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

As always for the cause;

J. H. Underwood

Commander.



Memorial Hall, the other Confederate Museum

Article from www.neworleansonline.com



929 Camp St
New Orleans, LA 70130
(504) 523-4522
Fax: (504) 523-8595

Neighborhood: [Arts District/Convention Center](#)

Hours: Tuesday through Saturday,
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Free Parking: No

Handicapped Accessible: No/Unknown
Attraction Information

Attraction Type/s: Museum

Admission Cost: \$8 for adults, \$5 for children under 14, active military in uniform FREE!

Louisiana's Civil War Museum, formerly known as the Confederate Museum, is one of the largest repositories of Confederacy-related artifacts and memorabilia in the United States, in addition to being the oldest continuously operating museum in Louisiana. The Louisi-

ana Historical Association built the museum in 1891, and its exterior sandstone construction and cathedral-like appearance stand out in contrast to its more recent surroundings on the edge of New Orleans' Warehouse Arts District.



A large Columbiad, Civil War-era cannon (circa 1865) mounted on the front terrace welcomes visitors to what is now a landmark on the National Register of Historic Places. Louisiana residents donated most of the contents of the museum.

Memorial Hall was the site of the city's farewell to Jefferson Davis, the first and only president of the Confederate States of America. Davis, who died in New Orleans in 1889, was buried here until 1893, when his remains were transferred to Richmond, Virginia for reburial. More than 60,000 people turned out

to pay their respects to Davis while he was lying in state for two days prior to his interment.

Varina Howell Davis, Davis' widow, contributed the large collection of Jefferson Davis memorabilia to the museum. Davis family artifacts were divided up among only four museums, and the Civil War Museum displays about one-fourth of the donated estate.

The museum also features personal belongings of Generals Robert E. Lee, P. G. T. Beauregard, Braxton Bragg and Franklin Gardner.

Just outside the museum is Lee Circle, a tribute to commanding Confederate General Robert E. Lee, whose 16-foot statue stands atop a 60-foot white marble column. The monument was erected in 1884 and the statue of Lee faces north where, as local lore has it, he can always look in the direction of his military adversaries.



The Confederate Cemeteries of Covington

and Oxford (26th & 27th Soldiers in the series)

Continuing Project by Compatriot Gene Wade



Headstone at Covington shows:

L. W. FARR
66th GA

Actually:

LEONARD WASHINGTON
FURR
COMPANY F
66th GEORGIA INFANTRY



This soldier enlisted as a private on August 16, 1863 at Decatur, Georgia in Company F, 66th Regiment, Georgia Infantry. Once formed and accepted into service, the 66th was ordered to Fort Cobb near Quincy, Florida to guard the areas near the Chattahoochee and Apalachicola Rivers. The 66th soon joined General Braxton Bragg's Army of Tennessee and joined the lines at Missionary Ridge, Tennessee. The 66th, now part of Walker's Division, was near the right flank next to General Cleburne's Division and helped to hold the right flank until forced to retreat when the center of the line collapsed. The 66th was part of the rear guard in the retreat to Dalton, Georgia. The 66th went into winter quarters near Dalton during the winter of 1863 with the rest of the Army of Tennessee.

On May 1st, 1864, the 66th was involved in the battles of Resaca and other fighting in the area to include severe fighting on the Kennesaw Line. The 66th was involved in especially heavy fighting near the Western and Atlantic Railroad bridge where the 66th was credited for delaying Union General McPherson's advance.

Private Furr was a patient in the Atlanta receiving hospital for Chronic Diarrhea for a short time in January 1864 but it appears he soon returned to his unit in time for the May and June 1864 battles. It is not known if he had a recurrence of his illness or if he was wounded in battle but his service record shows that Private Leonard Washington Furr died on July 4, 1864 at the Lumpkin Hospital at Covington, Georgia.

Leonard Washington Furr was born in Georgia, probably Hall County, on September 10, 1821 to Paul M. Furr (1786-1867) and Sarah Griffith Furr (1799-abt 1849). Leonard Furr was one of eleven children and was likely one of the oldest that survived infancy. Several of Leonard Furr's brothers served in the Confederate Army.

Brother Stephen Furr served as a 2nd Lieutenant in Company F of the 43rd Georgia Infantry but was medically discharged in 1862 at Chattanooga, Tennessee because of hip bone disease. Brother Cicero Furr was a Captain in the 43rd Georgia Infantry but died of Measles at Camp McDonald near Marietta, Georgia in April 1862. Brother Augustus Furr was a private in Company I of the 24th Georgia Infantry and died of Measles at Chimborazo Hospital No. 2, Richmond, Virginia on January 17, 1863.

According to the 1860 US Federal Census, Leonard Washington Furr (age 38) was a farmer in Habersham County, Georgia and was married to Parthena Lane Furr (age 31) and had five children, Mary Ann (age 13), Sarah Jane (age 11), Martha (age 8), William (age 5) and Tina (age 2). It cannot be determined with any certainty what happened to Parthena and the children. The Furr Family gave much to the Confederacy.

Headstone at Covington Shows:

H. E. FAUK
5th KY

Actually:

HENRY E. FUNK
COMPANY F
5th KENTUCKY
MOUNTED INFANTRY



This soldier enlisted as a private September 10, 1861 in Captain James M. White's Company at Nicholasville, Jessamine County, Kentucky. This company soon became (3rd) Company F, 5th Regiment Kentucky Infantry (Mounted) and engaged Union forces in several engagements to include the Battle of Middle Creek, Kentucky and heavy fighting at the Battle of Princeton, Virginia (now in West Virginia) and suffered heavy casualties at Shiloh, Tennessee in April 1862.

In October 1862, the original 5th Kentucky was reorganized near Hazel Green, Kentucky with the men being offered an honorable discharge and allowed to return home, they could remain with the newly reorganized 5th Kentucky Infantry or allowed to join one of the new Kentucky Cavalry units being organized. It appears that Private Funk chose to remain with the reorganized 5th Kentucky Regiment for a while because he is shown on the November 30, 1862 roster for the 5th Kentucky. Here, things get

murky because this same November 30th roster shows he is "Absent, left in the retreat from Kentucky" and then the 5th Regiment muster roll for December 1862 to January 1, 1863 shows he "Deserted October 12, 1862 in KY". The next record for the 5th Kentucky, almost two years later (March thru April 1864 muster roll), shows that Private Henry E. Funk was "transferred from Co A, 31 Ala. March 1, 1864".

So what happened from the time of his supposed desertion from the 5th Kentucky on October 12, 1862 until his transfer from the 31st Alabama to the 5th Kentucky on March 1, 1864? Did he simply get lost in the confused reorganization of the 5th Kentucky that occurred in October 1862? For whatever reason, Private Funk wound up in the 31st Alabama which incidentally was in Kentucky during this period. The Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System (CWSS) shows Private Henry E. Funk in the 5th Kentucky and also in the 31st Alabama. Unfortunately, the online records on FOLD3, (formerly Footnote) the on-line records of U.S. Archives are likely incomplete as they do not contain the service record for his service in the 31st Alabama. It is proven that he did in fact serve in the 31st Alabama because he is listed as one of the Confederate prisoners paroled by Union forces after the surrender of Vicksburg in July 1863. This parole record lists "Funk, Henry E., Pvt, Co A, 31st Alabama" per the online records of the National Park Service at Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Private Henry E. Funk saw heavy service in both the 5th Kentucky and the 31st Alabama. In the 31st Alabama, he apparently fought not only at Vicksburg where the unit suffered heavy casualties and where he was captured but at equally destructive Port Gibson and Baker's Creek, Mississippi. After being paroled at the parole camp at Demopolis, Alabama, the 31st Alabama rejoined the Army of Tennessee in time to fight at Missionary Ridge, Tennessee after which it wintered at Dalton, Georgia. It was during this time (March 1864) that Private Funk transferred back to the 5th Kentucky.

It is noteworthy that the 5th Kentucky was a part of the First Kentucky Brigade which is better known as the "Orphan Brigade". The Orphan Brigade was perhaps the most combat-savvy brigade in the Army of Tennessee. This brigade was often specifically requested when a mission abso-

Continued on page 4.

**MAJ. GEN. JOSEPH WHEELER CAMP #863,
CONYERS, GA.**

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We're on the Web!

www.campjoewheeler.org

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The Confederate Cemeteries of Covington and Oxford (26th & 27th Soldiers in the series)

Continuing Project by Compatriot Gene Wade



lutely had to be accomplished and it participated in most of the major battles of the Army of Tennessee. The name of "Orphan Brigade" was really the situation faced by the Kentucky Confederates. When they left Kentucky in 1862, they were never able to return as a unit during the war. Cut off from supplies, recruits, and even mail from their homes behind enemy lines, the Kentuckians began to see themselves as "orphans" whose only home was the Confederate Army. Certainly, Kentuckian Private Henry E. Funk, whether in the 5th Kentucky or the 31st Alabama was truly one of the "Orphans" who were unable to return home. Many former Confederate soldiers returning home to Kentucky were subjected to harassment and often attacks on the way home and well after their return.

When Private Funk transferred back to the 5th Kentucky from the 31st Alabama, it was likely near Dalton, Georgia where both units were wintering. Perhaps he missed his fellow Kentuckians. He rejoined the 5th Kentucky in time for the Atlanta Campaign. The Kentucky "Orphan Brigade" (including the 5th Kentucky Regiment) fought at Mill Creek Gap, Resaca,

Dallas, Pine Mountain Line, Kennesaw Line, Peachtree Creek, Atlanta (called Intrenchment Creek by the "Orphans"), Utoy Creek, Jonesboro, Griswoldville and others. Alas, according to his records, Private Funk was wounded on May 28, 1864 which was likely during the fighting at Dallas, Georgia (May-26-June 1). The records for Private Henry E Funk shows that he died of his wounds on July 4, 1864 at Hill Hospital, Covington, Georgia. His effects were only listed as "sundries".

Henry E. Funk was born about 1842 in Jessamine, Kentucky to Peter Funk (Jr.) and Susan West Funk. He had three brothers and three sisters. Henry Funk's father Peter died in 1851 and his mother Susan likely died soon afterward because the 1860 Census shows Henry (age 18) as living, along with his sister Mary (age 16) living with their brother John Funk (age 25) and John's wife and their three young children. It appears that Henry was the only male family member to have served the Confederacy since there were only two Funks (the other Funk possibly a cousin) shown as Kentucky Con-

federates. Since there are ten Kentucky Funks who are known to have served in the Union Army, it can be assumed that Confederate Henry E. Funk fought against some of his cousins.

Private Henry E Funk gave much and suffered much as a soldier and was only about age 22 when he died. He was not married and had no children. Few Funk family genealogists even mention or know about this brave Confederate soldier. We descendants of Confederate soldiers are duty bound to remember the forgotten soldiers such as Private Henry E. Funk.



**Confederate Memorial Wall
Covington Georgia**