

February 14 , 2006

NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY, 2006

Camp Van Dorn Developments

Following the discovery of Camp Van Dorn's location by our founder and Historian Emeritus Gary Goodson , Sr, a newspaper article was arranged to appear in *The Knoxville News - Sentinel*. Gary personally escorted senior writer Fred Brown and four local historians to the site. For a complete report of the discovery, see Gary's announcement elsewhere on the website.

After the story ran, Gary received several contacts from readers. One of them was from a Charlie Monday of Knoxville. He specializes in finding graves with a dowsing rod. He had no interest in the WBTS as such but he did like the idea of finding lost graves. On his own, he went to the Camp Van Dorn site and in two hours located 200 unmarked graves and three long ago building sites. The graves were all in a neat line, all male, and arranged in a military fashion on the edge of the camp area.

Gary's previous research has found that at least 148 men from the Georgia Brigade were buried at Camp Van Dorn between March and July, 1862. Gary found records that the 40th Georgia lost 90 ; the 42nd Georgia lost 8 ; the 43rd Georgia lost 7 and the 52nd Georgia lost 43 while at Camp Van Dorn. There may have been more. These men died from various diseases in camp and they must have been buried closeby.

It is highly probable and likely that the 148 known men from the above regiments that died are buried in the unmarked graves. The next phase will be to confirm these grave findings through archeology and local historian channels.

Lenoir Station Hospital Site

Meanwhile, 40th Georgia descendant Jonathan Peryman has found two graves on the railroad and marching route at Lenoir Station , Tennessee. You will recall this was a train station on the railroad between Knoxville and Chattanooga. The Georgia Brigade camped near here on the return from the Kentucky Campaign in 1862. One of the graves is marked "Unknown".

Jonathan Peryman and 40th Georgia descendant Kay Borden recently met Gerald Agustus at a Civil War Show in Dalton. Agustus is a Loudon County, Tennessee Civil War expert and Jonathan knew him from earlier times. It turns out that Gerald Agustus knows the name of the hospital that was in Lenoir Station, but no one has been able to find its exact location.

Perhaps we can get Charlie Monday , with his dowsing rods, to locate the hospital graveyard in Lenoir City. Charlie has been notified of the potential graves that need to be found. Stay tuned for further developments.

Franklin Reservations

If you tried to make reservations at the Marriott Hotel - Cool Springs at Franklin, Tennessee, like I did, and found that there was a problem in making the reservations-- the problem is now fixed. Just call (615) 261-6100 and tell them you are with the "Barton-Stovall Reunion". That is the way they have our rooms listed. The rate should be \$99 per night.

If you have any problems, please let me know and I will work through the Marriott staff to get it resolved.

Somewhere between the contract signing in October, 2005 and when I tried to make reservations in January, 2006, the special rate and our group name did not get put into the reservation computer by the Marriott staff. Without the information in their system, the reservation operators could not make the reservations. That situation has been corrected.

2006 Membership Dues

Membership dues of \$35.00 per family unit are now due. Since January 1 dues from only 11 members have been received. Just as a reminder, please send your checks made out to "Generals Barton and Stovall" to me at : 4110 Holly Beach Court, Bremerton, WA 98312.

