

SEPTEMBER , 2007 NEWSLETTER

I leave for my 50th High School Reunion tomorrow, so this newsletter will be shorter than normal. I'll be away when the normal deadline comes up, so this is written a few days earlier than normal. There are several items that come under the heading of "Loose ends and echoes " of the 6th Annual Congress held in Danville, KY. As I sat on the plane, I jotted down these items to share with you.

Tips

The bus driver and the guest speaker were tipped in addition to their fee. I felt it was warranted and deserved because of their outstanding performance. I know some of you had tipped the driver yourself. He did an outstanding job of keeping the bus on the narrow road with no shoulder and no guard rails as we retraced the Wilderness Road.

Maney's Field Hospital

After the decoration of the mass grave site and the monument on Sunday morning, I found the location of the Dug Road and the location of Maney's field hospital. This field hospital was the only one supporting Maney's brigade. The hospital was located in a grove of trees at a family cemetery called the Goodnight Cemetery. The grove of trees is surrounded by a field, and because it was a cemetery, it is still there.

Driving directions for future reference : From junction of US 150 and US 68 in Perryville, drive about three miles north on US68 to " CLAUNCH ROAD" . Turn left and drive about 1 mile to the end of the road. At the end of the road there is a driveway to the left, a turnaround to the right and the gate is across the road straight ahead. Facing the end of the road, the grove of trees is in the field at about the 10 o'clock position. A stone spire marks the center of the cemetery and it can be seen among the trees.

A cement bridge on this route crosses the Chaplin River and turns to the right and goes up hill. The bridge is one lane. I believe this location fits the description of the Dug Road, where Turner's Battery came up out of the river crossing.

Turner's Battery

Turner's Battery relocated to the recently captured Parson's Ridge and continued to support the advancing attack from that position. I don't recall that fact being mentioned while we were on Parson's Ridge and then when we walked to the Cornfield. Seven of the eight guns that Parson had were captured. It is likely that Turner's Battery cannoners took charge of those seven captured guns.

Crawford Springs

I found and looked at Crawford Springs, next to Crawford House that we drove by. The spring is still flowing out of the hill and the water looks like a long oval shaped pond. There is a sign explaining the spring at the car turnaround. The road is suitable for cars but a bus would have trouble coming up onto the highway as there is a vertical curve and a hump that the bus might high center on. Chris made the right call to mention the spring and drive on. The sign is about 1/4 mile off the highway and the road junction is about 1 mile from Perryville, just before the

Crawford House.

Regimental Historian Reports

We had outstanding presentations on Friday night during the Regimental Historian's time.

Kay Borden discussed Turner's Battery, which supported Maney's brigade.

Judy Rowell gave a detailed bio of Colonel Charles A. Mc Daniel of Cobb's Legion and the 41st Georgia Infantry.

Gary Goodson gave a review and update on the behind the scenes actions on locating and marking Camp Van Dorn in Knoxville.

Larry Crowe addressed the members on helping new members and his newly discovered connections with his family and Ed Combs.

Robert Elliott described some of his collection of artifacts, weapons and pictures. Many of the items were rare and valuable if they were to be sold to other collectors.

Jim Rowell surprised those in attendance by appearing in the uniform of a 56th Georgia Infantry soldier. He read the letters that he had sent to his family. The letters discussed his marching in Kentucky, the girls of Danville, and parts of the retreat out of Kentucky. The 56th Georgia was part of Kirby Smith's command and the 40th, 42nd, 43rd and 52nd Georgia were also in Kirby Smith's command during the battle of Perryville and the retreat.

Mike Griggs described the wounding of his great grandfather at Perryville, as passed down in his family.

A few sentences do not do justice to the fine presentations, but this is not meant to be a complete report.

Thank You Letters

I think it is very important to write Thank You letters to vendors, guest speakers, hotel managers and others who helped our group. I have written and sent 11 letters after returning from the Congress.

***Civil War Times* October, 2007 Issue**

The *Civil War Times* magazine, October, 2007 issue, has a picture of Marborough, the slave of Major Raleigh S. Camp of the 40th Georgia, on the cover. He is shown in uniform with two canteens strapped on and is holding his cap in his hand.

Work has already started on preparing for the 7th Annual Congress to be held in Marietta, GA over Labor Day Weekend of 2008. Member Fran Wagner is checking out the Marietta Convention Center, obtaining information and rates for a possible headquarters. I have started revising, mentally, a draft agenda that had been prepared a year or so ago. Kay Borden has already volunteered to lead a segment of the tour on ground she has known since she was a little girl. It is impossible to "do everything", but you should know we are started on the process of

bringing the 7th Annual Congress together.

I will have a draft Agenda sent to our Webmaster Don Bulloch, when I get back. I'm sure he will have it posted so you can see what is being planned.

For those that were able to attend in Danville, thank you for coming. For those that were unable to attend, we hope you can plan to attend in Marietta. For those who have never attended, please consider doing so. I think it is fair to say we share alot, we learn alot and we enjoy each others company as we retrace the footsteps of our ancestors who served in the 40th, 41st, 42nd,43rd and 52nd Georgia Volunteer Infantry regiments.

Until next month,

Mike Griggs
President