



Deerfield Village Voice

Keeping the Homeowner Informed

Volume II, Issue 3

<http://deerfield.ekota.net/index.html>

Spring Cleanup has Begun Some are Pitchin' in!

On April 12, 2008, Paul Wilmoth and Tom Miller began cleaning up the peach trees. Many peach trees in the peach orchard section are too old and must be cut down. Also, some apple trees have low branches making it difficult to mow around them. Usually pruning the apple trees occur during the cooler months to prevent fire blight from spreading. Paul has donated his equipment, such as the chipper and chain saws to do this work. Thank you Paul!!

We need your help in maintaining the orchard. It's far too big for a few to tackle the job. Please consider donating a little time, maybe an hour, to help mow, prune, or clean up.



Tom Miller in action. Paul Wilmoth (not pictured) took a break to attend to an appointment

History Lesson: North of Southpaw

Ever wonder what those "mini-Washington Monuments" are around the area? You know what I'm talking about, the ones scattered throughout Jefferson County with the rebel flag markings. Well, just about 356 yards north of the Deerfield Village community entrance is Marker #2.



Marker number 2, just North of Deerfield Village

About 40 feet behind that marker, a Colonel James H. Drake was mortally shot during the Civil War on July 16, 1863. Drake belonged to the 1st Virginia Calvary, Company A, and fought in Gettysburg under the command of Brigadier General Fitzhugh Lee (Robert E. Lee's nephew and eventual Governor of VA). Fitz Lee's Brigade was commanded by Major General James Ewell Brown (J.E.B) Stuart of the Northern Virginia Army. Here is a link to those markers:

<http://www.jeffersonhistoricalwv.org/CWmarkers.html>

If what's written above satisfies your curiosity, skip the following or, for you history buffs, read on to get more details. This story is summarized in the last paragraph.



Gen. R. E. Lee



Gen. G. Meade



Brig. Gen. J.R. Chambliss



Brig. Gen Micah Jenkins, age 28

James Henry Drake was raised in Stephens City (then Newtown) in a house on Green and Main Streets. He married Sarah Rosenberger and had four children - Alfred, Alidigetha, Ernest, and Douglas Kansas. Drake was a plasterer, mechanic and Newtown militia officer. On April

19, 1861 at the ripe age of 39 years, he enlisted in Company A as the commissary (lead soldier). His son Alfred joined Company A as well. Then Major General Fitz Lee, stated that Drake "rushed to arms at his country's call, though of an advanced age."

Drake was a highly motivated soldier. In June of 1861, he was promoted to Captain and in 1862 to the rank of major. Eventually, he became lieutenant then colonel.

The 1st Virginia Cavalry, organized from prewar militia companies, consisted initially of 12 companies (A - M), had completed its organization July 16, 1861. Company A was known as the Light Dragoons that included men from Frederick County, Newtown and Middletown, VA. The 1st Virginia was led by J.E.B. Stuart, Fitz Lee, and "Grumble" Jones. The regiment fought in more than two hundred battles and skirmishes. Despite heavy casualties, the 1st maintained its high morale to the bitter end. Escaping at Appomattox Court House, the regiment marched to Lynchburg before disbanding on April 11, 1865.

On July 4, 1863, the Confederate Army was retreating from their loss at Gettysburg. The Confederate Northern VA Army, commanded by Major General Stuart, split up on that rainy day. Confederate Brigadier General Fitzhugh Lee and Brigadier General Hampton were ordered to proceed to Williamsport, MD via Cashtown Road (now PA Route 30). Stuart, Brigadier General Micah Jenkins, who, at 27 years old was and considered the youngest general in the Confederate Army, and Brigadier General John Randolph Chambliss proceeded to Emmitsburg, MD. Stuart entered Emmitsburg at dawn, rested and fed their tired and hungry horses for about an hour and proceeded to Hagerstown, MD. While traveling, a fork in the road caused Stuart to further split the group with Chambliss taking the left road to Smithtown and Jenkins and Stuart taking the right to Leitersburg, MD (outside Hagerstown). Eventually, the Cavalry, except the two Brigades with Fitz Lee was pretty well concentrated in Hagerstown.

On July 6th, the Union and Confederate Armies engaged in skirmishes at Williamsport. Assistance was provided by Fitz Lee, who reached Williamsport by Greencastle Road.

From July 8th through 12th, Stuart covered the front of General Robert E. Lee's Army. Lee's train of wounded stretched for fourteen miles. On July 11, 1863, Lee established a confederate line of troops that protected the northern shore of the Potomac at Williamsport. A pontoon bridge constructed across the Potomac near Williamsport earlier was destroyed by a cavalry raid. It had been raining heavily causing the Potomac River to swell, making it impossible to cross. General George Gordon Meade, who commanded the Union Army of the Potomac (the major Union Army in the Eastern Theater) and who had just defeated Lee at Gettysburg was in hot pursuit of him. On July 12, Meade reached the vicinity and examined the Confederate line. Stuart uncovered Lee's Front and the Union Army advanced. Lee found the army so strong that he refused to attack.

On July 13, skirmishing between the Union and Confederate Armies was heavy along the lines as Meade positioned his forces for an attack. Lee waited until the river subsided, then a bridge was constructed and he and his Confederate Army crossed the Potomac river at dark.



Brig. Gen.
McMurtre Gregg

Upon Stuart's arrival near Shepherdstown the afternoon of July 15, 1863, he learned that Union Brig. General David McMurtre Gregg's cavalry was between Shepherdstown and Leetown, and Stuart was determined at once to attack them in order to stop them from entering Martinsburg.

Early on July 16, Stuart moved Fitz Lee's brigade down the turnpike (Kearneysville Pike), toward Shepherdstown, supported by Chambliss, who, though quite ill, remained at the head of his brigade. Jenkins' brigade was ordered to advance on the road from Martinsburg toward Shepherdstown, so as to expose one of the enemy's flanks.

Having arranged the placement of troops, Stuart was about to attack when he received a very urgent message from the commanding general to go at once to his headquarters. Stuart asked Brig. Gen. Fitz. Lee to execute the attack plans, and Stuart reported at once to the commanding general at Bunker Hill.

Returning to outside Shepherdstown in the afternoon, Stuart proceeded to the conflict on the turnpike, and found that General Fitz Lee had, with his own and Chambliss' brigades, driven the enemy steadily to within a mile of Shepherdstown and Jenkins' brigade not having yet appeared on the left. However, the brigade soon arrived in Fitz. Lee's rear, and moved to support Lee. The ground was too wet for the cavalry, and the troops dismounted, and advanced in line of battle. Gregg's Army withdrew behind stone fences and barricades, near Colonel [and Confederate Congressman] Alexander Robinson Boteler's residence (end of German Street where River Road begins).



Col. A.R. Boteler

On the night of July 16, 1863, in the confusion of the hard battle, Col James Henry Drake rallied all the men within the sound of his voice and yelled "forward" and charged toward the Union Army. Bullets pieced his thigh, right breast and shoulder. He fell with his face to the enemy at the head of his regiment, where he might always be found, when danger was near. His faithful soldiers fought off the enemy, who tried gaining possession of the fallen officer's body.

Preparations were made to renew the attack the next morning, but daybreak revealed that Gregg's Army had withdrawn to Harper's Ferry. The Union Army's loss in killed and wounded was heavy. JEB Stuart said that

Drake's death deprived his regiment of a brave and zealous leader, and his country of one of her most patriotic defenders. Upon Drake's death, Lieutenant Colonel R. Welby Carter took his place.

Drakes' men took his body back to Newtown, where he was buried with a sash and silk flag that was presented to the Company at the beginning of the war.

Drake did not achieve lasting fame as one of the first three commanders, however, he did win intense affection and respect of the regiment. Colonel Drake, performed in a manner that made him "much beloved by his men." At a public meeting convened for Drake's death, veterans of the 1st Virginia Calvary called him Virginia's "bravest most gallant and devoted sons," talked of his sublime courage and named the "dashing and fearless" performance of "a friend" noted for "courtesy and uniform kindness."

Because of the war, his burial spot remained unmarked in the old Trinity Lutheran cemetery until 1993, when the United Daughters of the Confederacy placed a headstone there.

In summary, after the Battle of Gettysburg, the Confederate army retreated to Hagerstown and a strong Union Army forced the Confederates to cross the Potomac at Williamsport. The Confederate Army became aware of a large Union Force between Leetown and Shepherdstown and met and fought each other along Kearneysville Pike. Colonel James H. Drake was killed during that battle about 350 yards from the entrance of Deerfield Village. So explains the monument and the people involved.



Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Drake
Col. James Henry Drake

Sources:

Winchester Star, "Face to the Foe," by Linda McCarty, July 7, 1993
JEB Stuart at the Battle of Gettysburg: Taken From "The Life and Campaigns of Major General JEB Stuart by H.B. McClellan, A.M."
"Smoothbore Volley that Doomed the Confederacy: The Death of Stonewall Jackson and Other Chapters on the Northern Virginia Army," by Robert Krick

Annual POA Meeting Elects Board Members

The annual meeting was held on March 4, 2008 at Saint Agnes Church Meeting Room. Proposed amendment to the bylaws were presented and approved:

- "The business of the corporation shall be managed by a board of directors consisting of nine (9) members."

Replaces the statement: "The business of this corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors consisting of five(5) members, together with the officers of this corporation."

- "The directors will, at the first meeting following their election, select the officers who will serve until their successors are elected."

Replaces the statement: "The Board of Directors shall elect the officers of the corporation."

Elections were held and the following individuals were elected to the board:

- **Steve Campbell,**
- **Debbie Crouse,**
- **Bill Krumenacker,**
- **Andrea Longnecker,**
- **Tom Miller,**
- **Rob Noll,**
- **Jimmy Williamson, and**
- **Paul Wilmoth**

A Social Committee Formed!!

Expect to Meet your Neighbor

While votes were being counted at the Annual Meeting, a discussion ensued about reviving social activities in Deerfield Village. To do this would require some individuals participate in a committee to develop social events that are budgeted from the home owner's association.

The following individuals volunteered as members of the social committee:

- **Trudi Tooke (Chair),**
- **Amy Campbell,**
- **Marilyn Katterjohn, and**
- **Andrea Longnecker**

The social committee had formally and informally met and has tentatively set a date for a neighborhood progressive barbecue on June 14, 2008.

Thanks to all who volunteered for this committee!

April Board Meeting Officers selected

At the April 1, 2008, board meeting, several board members were elected to the following offices:

- **Bill Krumenacker**, President,
- **Paul Wilmoth**, Vice President,
- **Rob Noll**, Secretary,
- **Jimmy Williamson**, Treasurer,

Welcome new officer, Rob Noll! Thank you, the Deerfield POA Board for volunteering your time to make the community run.

Debbie Crouse proposed allowing rain barrels, used to collect water for garden irrigation, be installed on owners' down spouts. Also, Adopt-a-highway was announced for April 27, 2008, and the mowing contract for \$2750.00 was approved with Stonewall Landscaping

JUI Request to Raise Rates.

A proposal to Raise DVV rates by 50%!!!

Jefferson Utilities (JUI) sent a letter on April 15, 2008, stating that it has, on April 11, 2008, filed with the Public Service Commission of West Virginia, an application containing increased rates, tolls and charges for furnishing water service to approximately 2,153 customers served by JUI's water systems located in Jefferson County, West Virginia, including Walnut Grove, Meadowbrook, Shenandoah Junction, Bardane, Keys Ferry Acres, Westridge Hills, **Deerfield** and Harpers Ferry Campsites. The rate increase stated is for an average residential bill consuming 4,500 gallons or 5,000 gallons where that minimum applies. The increase does not include the proposed surcharge which is being proposed to pay off Jefferson Utilities accounts payable debt. No increase is proposed for the Meadow Brook System. No surcharge is proposed for Meadow Brook because that system carries no unpaid accounts payable.

Bottom line is that instead of paying a \$65.00/month minimum you will be paying \$100.00/month even if you do not even use water during a month.

All protests and petitions to intervene should be addressed to:
Mrs. Sandra Squire, Executive Secretary

Public Service Commission of West Virginia
Post Office Box 812
Charleston, West Virginia 25323-0812

with a carbon copy (cc) also sent to:

E. Dandridge McDonald
P.O. Box 1588
Charleston, West Virginia 25326-1588

Pokin' Fun



THERE GOES LOT 10 AGAIN!!

Adopt-a-Spot Cleaning a highway can be fun!

April 27, 2008, several Deerfield residents again cleaned the 1/4-mile stretch outside our community. Debbie Crouse, Amy Campbell, Jimmy and Claire Williamson, and Paul Maher donated their time to show Jefferson County that Deerfield Village cares, a great public outreach. Thanks again for helping!!



(l to r) Claire Williamson, Debbie Crouse, Jimmy Williamson, Amy Campbell and Paul Maher



Harrowing, a road, a hill and an embankment with cars speeding by on 480.



contractors. Although it hasn't been that long since his retirement, he was very surprised when we recently went to the Steven Udvar-Hazy Air and Space Museum to see some of the projects that he managed on display. Claire worked for the government in various capacities until the kids were born, after being a stay at home-mom for a few years, she taught part time and then was a director of an international pre-school in Virginia, volunteering at the kids schools quite frequently. As the kids became closer to high school/college age, she again worked in HR in the private sector, continuing to volunteer.

Since retirement, Jimmy has developed many hobbies, he is Deerfield Villages "webmaster," likes to work in the yard and has been working on a doll house that he started for Kelly almost 30 years ago. The wiring is complete, some of the furniture is made, and he is currently putting on the siding. Claire has continued to volunteer, but on a limited basis, and has recently begun to learn how to quilt and is enjoying it immensely.

They both love living in this community, have met some wonderful people and truly enjoy their neighbors and home.

Quotable...

One would think that if you're anonymous, you'd do anything you want, but groups have their own sense of community and what we can do.

John Allen, A network called 'Internet', CBC, 10-08-93

Its time to meet...

The family of lot 22

Jimmy & Claire who live on Lot 22 come from completely different backgrounds. Jimmy grew up in a small town in rural Oklahoma. His family was small, one sister, one aunt, one uncle and one cousin. Claire grew up in Cleveland, Ohio one of the largest cities in Ohio, one of nine children with many uncles, aunts and cousins. They met in Saigon in 1970. Jimmy left just a few weeks after Claire arrived, but a year or so later, their paths crossed again and they married, lived in the Philippines for three years and had the opportunity to travel extensively.

They are the parents of two adult children; Kelly and her husband, Chris, live in Leesburg and son, David lives in Fairfax.

Jimmy was a project manager for the government, after retirement he worked as a project manager for government