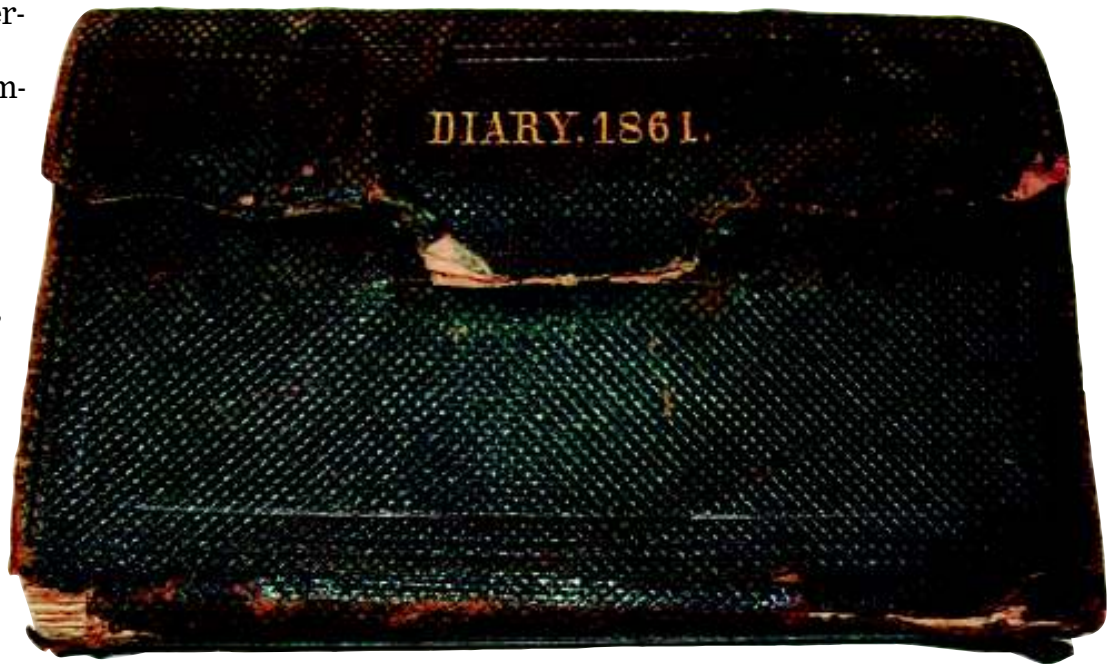


A precious legacy



George Franklin Traylor
1829-1878

George Traylor was a Confederate veteran who served in the West Point Light Guards, Company D, 4th Regiment, Georgia Volunteer Infantry, Confederate States of America. He was a corporal and member of the color guard from April 26, 1861, to Aug. 18, 1862, when he was discharged because he was over age. In the census of 1860, he was listed as a Troup County farmer with a wife, the former Mary Elizabeth Lovelace, and three children: two sons and a daughter, all younger than 9.



Great-grandfather's diary gives link to past

Note: The children and grandchildren of James Edward Traylor (1885-1956) are giving to the "Legacy Museum on Main," a history museum for Troup County and West Georgia, a diary kept by his grandfather, George Franklin Traylor (182-1878) from April 26, 1861, to May 9, 1862, George F. Traylor was the son of pioneer settlers in Troup County.

In 1976, at the time of the U.S. bicentennial, when everyone was "thinking history," Julia Traylor Dyar, whose father had made her caretaker of the diary, wrote some observations about it, but never had them published.

She said her story, with 2008 additions, is printed here with the hope that her family's example will encourage others to share their historic treasures with the museum.

By Julia Traylor Dyar

A diary can be a wonderful legacy.

When I was in my teens, studying the history of the War Between the States, I was an unreconstructed rebel. It infuriated me to read or to hear generalizations about the way Southerners had mistreated their slaves. I believed the real issue of the war my beloved Southland had fought had been states' rights - not slavery - for not all Southerners had been cruel to their black helpers.

Sensing my bitterness toward Yankees in general,

my father came into my room one day and presented me a gift - the diary of my great-grandfather, recording his thoughts and feelings from the day he was "mustered into the service of the Confederate States of America on May 3, 1861, at the age of 33."

Being young and very normal, I accepted it rather lightly and put it aside to read at a later time. About a month later I became ill with glandular fever and was confined to bed for several weeks. My great-grandfather became very real and important to me during those weeks, as I lived with him the pain of "leaving all the comforts of home and enjoyment incident thereto to battle for our common country, even our Sunny South."

Georgia had seceded from the union on Jan. 19, 1861. On Feb. 4, a congress of representatives of all Southern states that had passed ordinances of secession met in Montgomery, Ala., and adopted a provisional constitution and elected Jefferson Davis of Mississippi as president of the Confederate States of America. A Georgian, Alexander Hamilton Stephens, was elected vice president. On April 8, Davis called for 20,000 volunteers.

On April 20, Virginia authorities took over the Norfolk Navy Yard after it was evacuated by federal forces. When the Confederacy called for volunteers, early respondents from Georgia and Alabama were sent to Norfolk to protect the Navy Yard from the Northern forces.

George Franklin Traylor of Troup County was among the Georgia volunteers in the West Point Light Guards who reported there for duty after

Family ties

George Hamilton Traylor
1799-1869
First Traylor to come to Troup County.
He built a home on West Point Road in 1834.

Lucius Hamilton Traylor
1852-1901
Son of George F. Traylor and father to James Edward Traylor.

James Edward Traylor
1885-1956
Father to Julia Traylor Dyar

being sworn in at Augusta. On their arrival in Norfolk, my great-grandfather wrote, "The Guards are somewhat discouraged with the prospects before them." But the next day's entry read "after looking around, we are better pleased. Nearly 3,000 cannons are in and around the Navy Yard."

Not once in his day-to-day entries did I find any reference to hatred of the enemy or any bitterness about the hardships of war. Instead, the pages are filled with a great love of God and family, and concern for the sick and dying.

I found suspense, like the day, May 20, when he wrote: "Today has been an eventful day for the Fourth Regiment of Georgia Volunteers. An alarm was given that the Yankees were landing in the Navy Yard, which created no little confusion. (False)."

He wrote of his dismay that there were more battalion inspections than church services on Sundays. When they did have a sermon, the text was carefully recorded along with the preacher's name.

There was much illness in the camp, and he spent a great deal of his free time nursing his friends and rela-

tives in his unit. On June 13, 1861, he wrote: "It has been my intention from the first notice of the 13th being set apart as a day of fasting and prayer to keep the day as such, but from the fact that I have been 15 days at the hospital attending to the sick, I have thought it advisable not to fast. But I hope and trust that I may not forget the source from which I receive all of the comforts of life. May I this day, as in the presence of God (which I am), determine to live more like one that professes to love Christ."

And his feelings on July 4,

when he wrote: "This day will be celebrated by both the North and the South as the day upon which our independence was declared. But how different from the celebrations of past days."

He was able to get passes home several times during the period of a year. His entries "at home" were brief, but descriptive of his feelings. On one of these trips back to Georgia on Sunday, July 21, 1861, he wrote: "Attended divine services at Long Cane. Preaching by Dr. Roberts of LaGrange. Battle of Bull Run.

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Hundreds return for Dunson Village reunion

From staff reports

More than 350 people attended the second annual Dunson Village Reunion held Oct. 4 at Hooper's Restaurant and Gospel Barn. The attendance exceeded last year's total by 70 people, event organizers said. In addition, more than 180 people attended this year that were not present last year.

"To have this kind of response at a repeat reunion event is remarkable and further epitomizes what the sentiment and closeness of this one-time community was all about," said Jerry Key.

While the event was saddened by the recent death of Richard W. Wolfe, former plant manager of Dunson Mill and for whom the Dunson School Apartments were named, a good time was had by everyone, Key said.

Joe Thrower served as master of ceremonies.



Juvenile Court Judge Mike Key shares some stories from his childhood growing up at Dunson Village.

Guest speakers were Teena Harvey McManus, Michael Key, J.W. Turner, Ray Shepard and Charles "Chuck" Trammell representing the various generations that grew up in the village. They spoke briefly about what it was like to grow up in the village.

For more photos and a list of attendees, see page 8C.

Memorabilia was available for people to view as old and new friends reminisced.

A large photo cube was set up at the registration area that contained more than 42 enlarged photos of class photos, houses, churches and various recreation activities and life in general as it was in the village from as far back as 1927.

A video will be produced of the program, vintage photos and photos taken at the event.

For more information on ordering the video or to read some of the memories of those growing up at Dunson, visit the village website at www.dunsonmillvillage.com.



Wylie Ellis and unidentified guest look over the photos on the large photo cube set up at the reunion. More photos and a video of the reunion are available on www.dunsonmillvillage.com.



A few of the more than 350 people relax and get back together to relive old memories and good times. Pictured are Mike Key, Catherine Key Bledsoe, Jewell Allen Waldron, Nellie Meadows, Bobby Rusing, Leonard Bledsoe, Judy Key and Johnny Key.



Gathering for a photo are Ricky Yarbrough, Hollis Rogers, Betty Yarbrough, Tony Knopp, Charlotte White Ostertag, Bob Yates, Teena Harvey McManus, Barbie Johnson Crockett, DeLinda "Dee" Johnson Forbus, Sue Cash, Jerry Key, Lucy Barron Wolpin, Mike Key, Nita Ayers Foster and Sharon Andrews Granade.



Darlene Mann Morgan, Charlie Farrar, author of the book "Two Cents Worth," and Tom Daniel sit back and relive memories of growing up at Dunson.



Pat Alger (who writes songs for Garth Brooks, Reba Mcintire, Kathy Mattea, Trisha Yearwood and others) gets a hug from his aunt Bobbie Wadsworth Benefield.



Old friends pause for photograph. They are, left to right, Charlotte White Ostertag, Bill Gordon, Barbie Johnson Crockett, Susan White Poole, Dee Johnson Forbus, Hollis Rogers and Sharon Andrews Granade.



Bill Sivell checks to see if he got some good photos while Darlene Sivell Hicks, husband Chuck Hicks and Steve Sivell look on.



Curtis Scott, Lucy Buttrum, Kaylee Key, Dana Buttrum King, Joe Thrower, Donald and Peggy Buttrum, Catherine and Leonard Bledsoe, Peggy Key Johnson, Mary Ferguson Bridges and Sybil Yarbrough Brown stop by the registration table to pick up name badges.

Reunion attendees

Here is a list of those who attended the Dunson Mill Village reunion:

LaGrange

Connie Adams, Gertrude Adams, David Allen, W.T. Allen, Cathy Johnson Anderson, Clara Rholetter Andrews, George Andrews, Ann Gordon Austinson, Nita Foster Ayers, Betty Hood Bailey, Gail Looney Barber, Barbara Collier Barnes, Ann Bonner Bartlett, Dot Bonner, Ann Allison Bowen, Glennis Allen Boyd, Ann Bowen Brawner, Mary Furgerson Bridges, Diane Yarbrough and Lynel Brown, Janice Johnson and Wendall Brown, Sybil Yarbrough Brown, Jennie Herndon Brumblow, Lucy Buttrum,

Lamar Campbell, Helen Beam Cash, Sue Cash, Lynn Piper Chadwick, Dean Crawford Chewning, Linda Mims Clark, Scharlene Cole, Kathy Cook, Russ and Sandy Cook, Hugh and Sandra Cornwell, Wanda Koone Costley, Bobby Lavelle Cox, Betty Thompson Creamer, Jeanell Daniel, Lois and Lee Daniel, Patsy Fincher Darda, Peggy Gregory Darden, Virginia Dickson, Marion Payne Dickson-DiDominzio, Ray Dunlap, Wylie Ellis, DeLinda "Dee" Johnson and Buddy Forbus, Earl Davis Gamel, Ruth Rainey Garner, Ann Turner Garrett, Myrtis Gordon, Pete Gordon, Paula Brown and Bart Gorman, Juanita Claxton Gualdin, Phyllis Bruce and Lamar Hall, Marie Lynch Harrington, Billy C. and Rosella Harvell, William "Buck" and Wylene Herndon,

Frank and Jeanette Parr Hinkle, Clara "Boogie" Hubbard, Linda Knight and Ronald Humphries, Letha Jackson, Carolyn Johnson, Larry Johnson, Peggy Key and Harold Johnson, Faye Gregory Jones, Brenda Fowler Kelley, Gloria White Kelley, Wanda Reason and Gurald Kemp, Dorothy Key, Jerry, Gina & Kaylee Key, Mike Key, Judy Thompson and Richard King, Rheba Mims King, Charles and Isabelle Knight, Tony Knopp, Bobby Koone, Dorothy Koone, Anita Payne Laney, Dot Ashley Lankford, David Loftin, Richard and Beth Loftin, Juanita Lunsford, Lucy Lunsford, Ada Mae Lynch, Nancy Hazel Marsh, Eudonis Yates and Thomas Matheny, Jean Robinson Mayfield, Gay Yarbrough McDaniel, Shack McDaniel, Teena Harvey McManus,

Jimmy and Merle Rainey McMillian, Dottie Pattillo and Ronnie Meacham, Nellie Meadows, Jewell Gaudin Moat, Darlene Mann and Marvin Morgan, Brenda Railey and Jimmy Morris, Alice Paxton and Ralph Norris, Ann Allen Norton, Benny and Gail Phillips, Susan Koone Phillips, Earline Ellis Pierce, Barbara Piper, Leona Lenderman Pittman, Susan White Poole, Ruby Knighton Powers, Erlene O'Neal Pressley, Linda Knight Preston, Jodie Railey, Kathryn Reason, Oliver C. and Annette Reason, Wayne and Deidre Reason, Charlie Rennpage, Jimmy and Carla Rhodes, Brenda Bowen and Darrell Rice, Ernestine Lucas Rice, Nancy Robinson Rice, Dorothy White Richardson, Marie Fincher Richardson, Dianne Looney Rogers, Hollis and Lil Rogers, Bea Ross, Bobby Rushing,

Carole Payne Sandefur, Curtis and Joyce Allison Scott, Sherry Bledsoe Scott, Murbes Shepherd, Steve Sivell, Lanny and Sandra Sledge, Lois Tanner Sledge, Marie Bice and Richard Smallwood, Jolly Laster Spates, Margaret Stephens, Dianne Evans and Mose Stogner, Buddy and Patsy Maxwell Thompson, Joe and Shirley Thrower, Miriam "Sukie" Thrower, Bobby and Marthalene Traylor, Peggy Arrington and Jimmy Traylor, Donny and Pam Turner,

Peggy Hall and Rickey Wade, Jewell Allen Waldron, Jackie and Darlene Webb, Lawrence and Margaret Beam Woodard, Dorothy Kinney Woodel, Annie Lee Smith Woodham, Alice Worley, Layton and Mavis Wright, Barbara Irvin Yarbrough, Jackie Katter Yarbrough, Ricky and Betty Yarbrough.

Alabama

Charles "Chuck" and Jeanet Trammell from Auburn; Judy Mann and Larry Boggs from Dadeville; Darlene Sivell and Chuck Hicks from Enterprise; Jerry Sayers from Hoover; Mary Rogers Burnett from Lanett; Bobbie Wadsworth Benefield from Lineville; Howard Underwood from Phenix City; Ann Wright Hill, Richard and Linda Key from Smiths Station and Calvin Close, David Crowder and Judy Loftin Crowder from Valley.

Georgia

Tommy and Nancy Lanier, Becky Yarbrough Snipes of Acworth; Lynn Lindskoog of Atlanta; James R. and Annie Brooks of Buckhead; Emily Paxton and Richard McClurg of Cartersville; Charlotte White and Joe Ostertag of Clayton; Catherine Key and Leonard Bledsoe, Johnny and Judy Key and Bill Sivell of Columbus; Glenn and Cloe Cole of Cumming; Stanley and Jenny Crawford of Dalton; Ed Sanders of Eastman; Alvin and Sandra Smith of Fayetteville; Annette Thompson and Ed Bulat of Fortson; Hilt Brooks, Joan Cole Daigrepoint and Bob Yates of Franklin; Thomas Johnston, Lorene Shivers Kelley, Roger and Pat Pollard and Joann Denney Wyche of Greenville; Lynn Lankford Campbell, Gene Cox, Jeanette Denney Estes, Martha Turner Hester, Vickie Lynch Holliday, Robert Knighton and Jimmy and Patricia Reason of Hogansville; Gene and Annette Phillips of Locust Grove; Eunice White and Lamar Dawson, Sue Cole and Harold Lane of Macon; Jerry Breed, Gene and Nellie Carlisle, James C. and Myra Kenney, Cathaleen Wright Moore and Delene Cook Wall of Marietta; Donald and Peggy Buttrum of Molena; Joyce Tucker Burgess of Moreland; Minnie Ruth Allen and Melvin Butler, June Bonner and Roger Keeble and Robert Kenney of Newnan; Bill Gordon, Dana Buttrum King, Ray and Gail Sheppard of Pine Mountain; Bernice Loftin Scott of Riverdale; Delores Costley and Joseph Defreitas of Roswell; Tom Daniel of Sandy Springs; Teenie Johnson Perryman of Smyrna; Elaine Bice Wilkerson of Snellville; Ron Gordon of Springfield; Patricia Knight and Doil Smith of Sugar Valley; Janice Bice and Lewis Bennett, John B. Railey Jr. of Thomaston; Lucy Barron Wolpin of Tucker; Jimmy Waddell of Warm Springs; Edith Bennett and Franklin Hale, Billie Bennett and Jimmy Hubbard of Warner Robins and Billy Joe and June Brown, Debbie Smith Nix, J. W. and Barbara Turner of West Point.

Florida

Linda Wadsworth Giles of Pompano Beach and Dot Cook and Tom Easterling of Tallahassee.

Elsewhere

Also Joel Ringer of St Rose, La.; Lamar "Mossy" and Margaret Mann of Murphy, N.C.; Wynette Wright Little of Brentwood, Tenn.; Patrick Alger of Nashville, Tenn.; David M. Reason of Talbott, Tenn.; Sheila Alexander, Jackie Corley Willis of Tullahoma, Tenn.; Charlie Farrar of Baytown, Texas; Franklin "Jake" and Arena "Rennie" Thrower of Leander, Texas and Susan Richardson Carr, Barbie Johnson and Mike Crockett, Ann Brown Fischer, Sherral Wright Leverette and Lamar Spence.



Helen Beam Cash, her daughter Sue Cash and Martha Beam Woodard smile for the camera.