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# The Family of Francis Marion Shaw Newsletter

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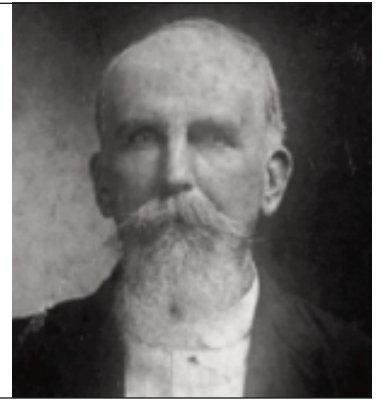
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# THE FAMILY OF FRANCIS MARION SHAW

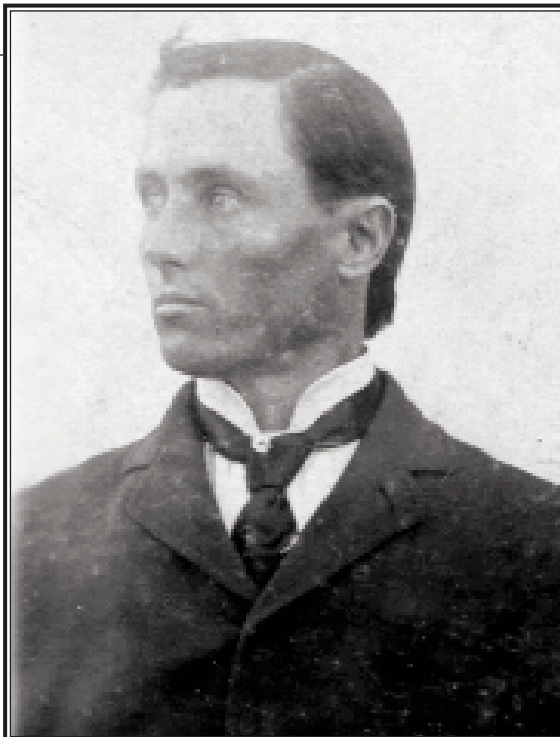


## BROTHERS IN BATTLE *Lt. Joshua A. Jones and Pvt. Francis Marion Shaw*

**O**n July 6, 1864, on Station Four at

Cedar Keys, Florida, there was a small skirmish between a company of Union troops who had ventured out of the garrison at Cedar Key, and a small contingent of Confederate Florida Reservists who were camped at Otter Creek.

The encounter didn't amount to much more than two or three thrusts from the Confederates, and a withdrawal of the Union troops back to the protection of the keys. Several Union soldiers were wounded, and two Confederate soldiers:



*Young Francis Marion Shaw, shortly after the end of the War Between the States, in which he and Lt. Joshua A. Jones were wounded at the Battle of Cedar Key, July 6, 1864. The two soldiers never met again.*

Private Francis Marion Shaw, a reservist from Berrien County, Georgia, and Lt. Joshua A. Jones from New River County, Florida near Sanderson, both receiving severe wounds. Private Shaw was wounded in the arm and had the arm amputated in Lake City four days later. Lt. Jones recovered from his wound and returned to his command. The two soldiers neither saw nor heard from each other again. Such is often the way of war, especially that war.

Nearly one hundred forty-four years later on May 2, 2007, near Trenton, Florida in Gilchrist county, on the front porch of Lizzie Mae Jones Watson, great-

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*The Family of Francis Marion Shaw is a non-profit newsletter published semi-annually, or more frequently, for the benefit of the descendants of Francis Marion Shaw and his wife, Rachel Moore Allen Shaw.*

*Historical contributions are requested. Your family histories including character traits, religious affiliations, professional pursuits and vital information such as birth dates and places, marriage dates and places, and death dates and places, are all welcome. Photographs help make the newsletter come alive. If you have some special photos of your ancestors which you would like to share with all of the family, please make a copy print of it and send it on to the address below. If original photos are sent, they will be carefully handled and returned, but editor cannot be responsible for loss or damage. Send your manuscripts and photo submissions to:*  
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**T**he Jones Family Cemetery on the border of Levy and Gilchrist Counties in Florida is marked with rudimentary concrete markers that were laid down by T. Sebron Rogers, the grandson of Joshua A. Jones. Several adult markers and two smaller markers suggest that other members of the extended Jones family used the burial plot. The last recorded burial was that of Lt. Joshua A. Jones, October 1903.

granddaughter of Lt. Joshua Jones, a remarkable reunion took place. Phillip Watson, son of Lizzie Mae, and I, Bryan Shaw, second great-grandson of Pvt. Francis Marion Shaw, extended our hands in greeting, and the legacy of two Civil War veterans bridged the span of time.

**A**fter the war, the lives of these two Confederate soldiers took them each in different geographic directions. Pvt. Shaw was sent home to Berrien County after his amputation, and recovered there until the end of the war. In 1865 he married Rachel Allen, a widow of a Confederate soldier who already had three children by that marriage. They added 6 more of their own. He spent his life as a one-armed farmer, clearing a 600 acre plantation, building a log and clapboard home, and raising all 9 children to maturity. He died on September 23, 1922 in Ray City, Georgia near his life-long home.

Lt. Jones, who recovered from his wounds at Cedar Keys, was also wounded in the battle at Natural Bridge, and again at a skirmish at Darby Mill. He was mustered

out of service at the end of the war and returned to his Sanderson, Florida home, where he married his wife Sarah and the couple started their large family of nine children. By 1880 the Jones family had moved to Levy County near the community of Judson on the Gilchrist County line. He, too, made his livelihood farming, and lived out his life on that farm near Judson. He died on November 18, 1903, and is buried in a old family cemetery on his farm property. The descendants of Lt. Jones were reared mostly on or near the old soldier's farm. Even today many still live within a few miles of the old home place, and are involved in the Levy and Gilchrist county communities.

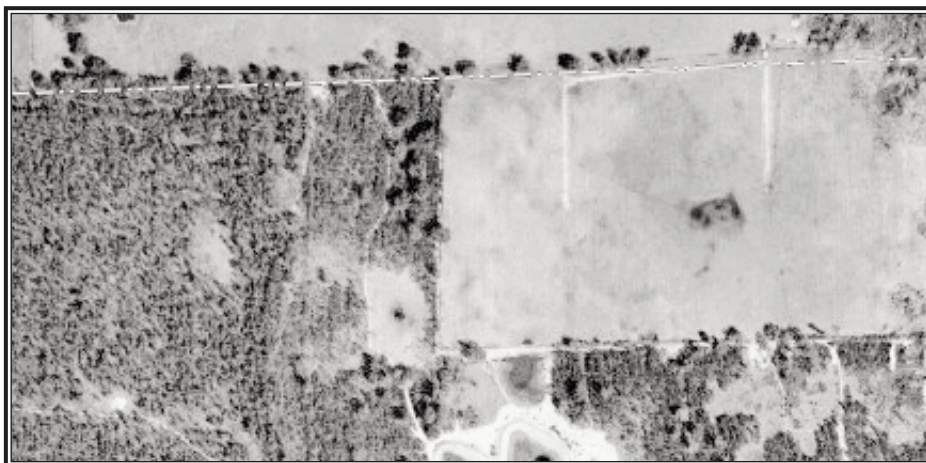
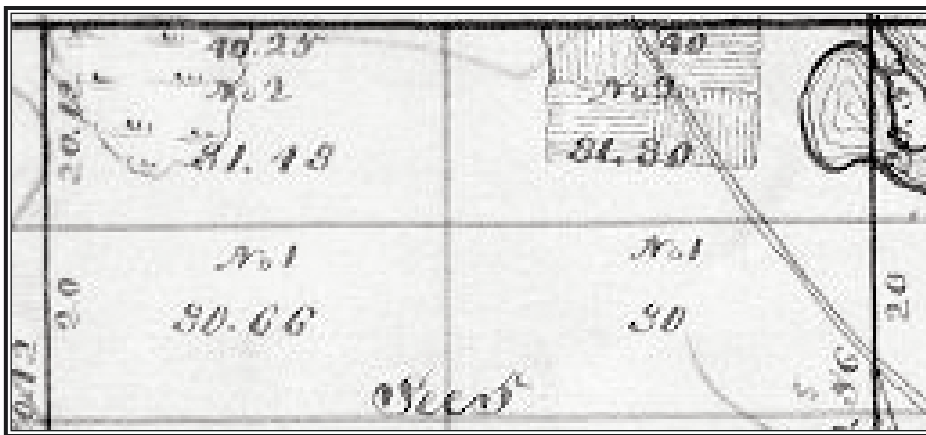
**T**hough Pvt. Shaw and all of his children remained in Georgia, several of the grandchildren eventually migrated to Florida. By the beginning of WWII, the great-grandchildren of this veteran had spread throughout the country. One great-grandson, Charles Bruner Shaw, Jr. was stationed in Boise, Idaho, where he met and married Velda Simpson. I was the couple's second-born

child. I found great fascination in stories my grandmother and father told of the old veteran of the Civil War—"One Arm Marion" as he was called. This fascination turned into an obsession to learn about the life of that old veteran and his family. I eventually turned my obsession into a fulfillment of a retirement dream when I moved to Nashville, Georgia and bought and restored the old Victorian home of my great-uncle Chester Shaw, son of "One Arm Marion."

**T**wo years ago, my youngest son, Lucas Shaw, also a historical researcher, called me and asked how much I knew about Lt. Jones, who was also wounded at Cedar Key, July 6, 1864

I told him that my earlier research suggested that Lt. Jones had died from his wounds. Lucas, however, revealed that he had come across a diary entry of a member of their regiment that mentioned the skirmish and identified the wounds of both soldiers. It stated therein that Pvt Shaw had his arm amputated, however Lt. Jones had survived his wounds. This information prompted Lucas to search the Confederate pension records of Lt. Joshua Jones. His widow and second wife, Lucinda Delilah Jones, had filed for a widow's pension in Levy County in 1907, and therein she stated that Lt. Jones was wounded at Cedar Keys, Natural Bridge and Darby Mill, and that he survived all three. This information sent young Shaw into the census records of Joshua A. Jones in Levy County. Shortly most of the children and grandchildren of Lt. Jones were identified. Over the past two years, extensive searches of census records, newspaper obituaries, and court records helped our father-and-son team to identify surviving descendants of Lt. Joshua A. Jones.

Last spring Lucas and I decided to make a pilgrimage back to the battle site and to the settlement that Lt. Jones called home in his later years. Lucas had contacted Addy Jones, brother of Lizzie Mae Jones Watson, before they made their trip. However we were terribly disappointed to find that Mr. Jones had passed away a few months before our visit. However his wife and daughter sent us down the road to his sister's home. And there after almost a century and a half, the history of Lt. Jones and Pvt Shaw was rejoined.



**O**ne other remarkable discovery occurred in my research and visit to Levy and Gilchrist counties. I recently married a Moultrie, Georgia lady, Linda Jones (no relation), who's mother just happened to be from Levy County, Florida. She was Wanda Faye Garner, daughter of Henry Garner, former game warden from Levy County. While visiting descendants of Joshua A. Jones in the Judson community, Lucas and I met Lomer Rogers, who is the great grandson of Joshua Jones. We were shocked to find that his mother was Lizzie Garner Rogers—yes, the sister of Henry Garner, my wife's grandfather!

While discussing the history of his great grandfather, the 90-year-old descendant recalled that his father, T. Sebron Rogers, personally laid the concrete slabs over the graves of Lt. Joshua A. Jones, his wife, his parents, and two infant children. The graves are located in a corner of the original Joshua A. Jones farm.

My hope is to secure approval from the current land owner, to place a Confederate marker designating the final resting place of Lt. Jones—a long overdue tribute to a "brother in battle." —Bryan Shaw

**T**he original cultivation area of the Joshua A. Jones farm, indicated in the 1854 survey map of Levy County

(top), can still be distinguished almost one hundred years later in the satellite image (bottom).

*The old Joshua A. Jones farm sits on the northern edge of Levy county, just south of the Gilchrist County line, about 5 miles southeast of Trenton, Florida. The cemetery is on private property and is not accessible to the public.*

# 15TH ANNUAL SHAW-ALLEN REUNION

*Sunday, September 28*

*Open House of the Chester D. Shaw Home and Family Archive,  
will be on Saturday,*

*September 27*



**T**he reunion will be held at the Nashville, Ga. Community Center across from the courthouse square.

Registration and visitation starts at 10:00 a.m., followed by a brief program, and the 4th Annual One-armed Cornhusking Championship. The day concludes with our famous covered dish luncheon about 12:00. As usual, the Chester D. Shaw Home will be open for your inspection on Saturday between 10:00 and 2:00.

**I**t's hard to believe it has been 14 years since we began holding the Shaw-Allen Reunion. From just a handful of local Shaw-Allen remnants, has emerged one of the largest and most noteworthy reunions in this section of the state.

Through these many years, several elderly members of the family association have spent their final days with us, honoring the life and family of Francis Marion and Rachel Moore Allen Shaw. Parents have brought their children together to mingle with distant cousins, and help them reconnect to a heritage that is worthy of celebration.

Each year we use the occasion to try to expand the knowledge and understanding

of the events and circumstances that helped shape the lives of this pioneer couple and their descendants.

Printed handouts, oral interviews and video presentations and period activities, all help bring the history of this prominent family to life.

I hope you will take the time to bring your children, and your aging parents or grandparents to this special event—that the younger ones will know that they are part of something larger than themselves, and the elders will trust that their legacy is being left in caring hands. That is the duty and obligation to all of us who follow in their footsteps.

—Bryan Shaw