



# PATRIOT'S PERIODICAL

UPSHUR CO. PATRIOTS CAMP #2109  
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS  
GILMER, TEXAS

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JANUARY 2020

**NEXT MEETING**  
**JANUARY 7, 2020**

*"A new year is like a blank book. The pen is in your hands. It is your chance to write a beautiful story for yourself."*

## START THE NEW YEAR OFF ON A POSITIVE NOTE



Happy New Year! 2020 is here, and with it comes a whole new world of possibilities. What will you accomplish in 2020? How will you grow? The next 365 days lie before us, a completely blank page ready to be written on.

The first step in starting your new year off right is reflecting on what went right (or wrong) in the previous year.

Did you know you can actually speak positivity into your life? How you use words can influence the atmosphere around you and the attitude inside you.

Let's be honest: some people can have a negative influence on our lives. This year, take proactive steps to avoid toxic relationships which tear you down or make you feel unhealthy. One way to incorporate positivity throughout the New Year is by

giving back to others. Start the New Year off on a positive note by intentionally asking for help when you need it. Oftentimes, little steps which seem simple can actually have a hugely positive impact on our lives.

## WHY SOUTHERNERS EAT BLACK-EYED PEAS ON NEW YEAR'S DAY



On New Year's Day, you'll find people throughout the South eating black-eyed peas. Most Southerners will tell you that this culinary custom dates back to the Civil War. Black-eyed peas were considered animal food. The peas were not deemed worthy of serving to General Sherman's Union troops. When Union soldiers raided the Confederates' food supplies, legend says they took everything except the peas and salted pork. The Confederates considered themselves lucky to be left with those meager supplies, and survived the winter. Peas then became symbolic of luck.

**Upcoming Events may be found on the  
Calendar at:**

[www.upshurpatriots.org](http://www.upshurpatriots.org)

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**PATRIOTS CAMP #2109**

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**THE GUARDIAN**

WDP

When thinking about preserving and maintaining the graves of those who fought for our way of life, one only needs to look at how Confederate Survivors felt. The following article appeared in the Confederate Veteran Magazine January 1900.

**IMPORTANCE OF CARING**  
**FOR GRAVES FIRST**

By: T.J. Young, Austin, Arkansas January 1900

“While most attention is paid to the erection of monuments to our fallen heroes, which is alright in its place, it seems to me not appropriate or right to erect monuments until all the graves of our comrades are cared for. To erect monuments to the memory of Comrades who are buried in the woods and fields, their graves without protection and all grown up with briars and bushes is a reflection on us. We old Veterans and those who cherish our cause should use every effort to have these un-cared for graves attended to at once. Let us put them in condition as soon as possible and then erect monuments.”

**Think about becoming a Guardian...**





## UPSHUR CO. PATRIOTS GUARDIANS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Guardian</u> <u>Status</u>	<u>Number of</u> <u>Graves</u>
Phil Davis	Full	29
Kim Duffey	Full	3
Jamie Eitson	Full/GPT	8
Chris Loyd	Full	5
George Linton	Full/W/GPT	40
Tommy Lee Mitchell	Full	5
Eddie Pricer	Full/GPT	33
Milt Ojeman	Full/GPT	4
David Palmer	Full	1
Bill Palmer	Full	10
Tommy Ray	Full/GPT	18
Bill Starnes	Full/W/GPT	7
Frank Smith	Full	2
Mitch Tyson	Full	3
Gregg Gipe	GPT	1
W=Wilderness GPT=Guardian Pro Tem		



It is with sad news that we report the passing of Compatriot Billy Charles McBride of Big Sandy.

Billy was 88 and a member of the Upshur Co. Patriots and a Life Member of the SCV. There is no service planned.



*"Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let every New Year find you a better man." —Benjamin Franklin*

## OUR PLEDGES



### PLEDGE TO THE U.S. FLAG:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag Of the United States of America, And to the republic for which it stands, One nation, under God, indivisible, With liberty and justice for all.



### PLEDGE TO THE TEXAS FLAG:

Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.



### SALUTE TO THE CONFEDERATE FLAG:

I salute the Confederate Flag With affection, reverence, and Undying devotion to the cause For which it stands.



The Sons of Confederate Veterans is a non-profit, heritage organization whose mission is to preserve the history and legacy of Confederate veterans. It is not associated with any anti-government or hate groups. Membership is open to any male descendent of a Confederate veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces.



## CHARGE TO THE SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

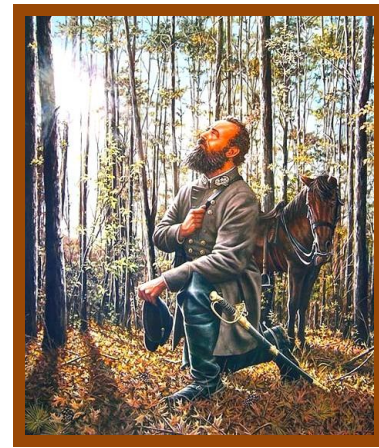
“To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier’s good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish.”



**“Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations.”**



Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander  
United Confederate Veterans  
New Orleans, Louisiana, April 25, 1906.



## A PRAYER TO KEEP GOD FIRST THIS NEW YEAR

*crosswalk.com*

Dear God,

Thank you that you make all things new. Thank you for all that you've allowed into our lives this past year, the good along with the hard things, which have reminded us how much we need you and rely on your presence filling us every single day.

We pray for your Spirit to lead us each step of this New Year. We ask that you will guide our decisions and turn our hearts to deeply desire you above all else. We ask that you will open doors needing to be opened and close the ones needing to be shut tight. We ask that you would help us release our grip on the things to which you've said “no,” “not yet,” or “wait.” We ask for help to pursue you first, above every dream and desire you've put within our hearts.

We pray for your protection over our families and friends. We ask for your hand to cover us and keep us distanced from the evil intent of the enemy; that you would be a barrier to surround us, that we'd be safe in your hands. We pray that you would give us discernment and insight beyond our years.





## HISTORICAL DATES IN JANUARY

### January 2, 1861

North Carolinian forces take the Fayetteville arsenal as well as Fort Macon and the forts of Wilmington.

January 3, 1861-Georgian forces claim Fort Pulaski critical to the defense of Savannah, Georgia.

January 1, 1862 -Confederate forces begin bombardment of Fort McRea in Pensacola Harbor.

January 4, 1862 -Confederate troops claim Bath, Virginia.

January 9, 1862 -The New Orleans Campaign begins.

January 19, 1862-The Battle of Mill Springs, Kentucky.

January 1, 1863-The Emancipation Proclamation goes into effect.

January 1, 1863 -Union forces flee Galveston, Texas after a surprise attack by General Magruder and his men. The city is now firmly in Confederate control.

January 21, 1863 -Confederate warships capture several Union vessels at Sabine Pass in Texas.

January 15, 1865-The Assault and capture of Fort Fisher, North Carolina.

January 31, 1865-The United States Congress abolishes slavery by passing the 13th Amendment.



## THE BATTLE OF GALVESTON

From: wikipedia

The Battle of Galveston was a naval and land battle of the American Civil War, when Confederate forces under Major Gen. John B. Magruder expelled occupying Union troops from the city of Galveston, Texas on January 1, 1863.

After the loss of the cutter *Harriet Lane*, the Union Fleet Commander William B. Renshaw blew up the stranded vessel *USS Westfield* to save it from falling into enemy hands. Union troops on shore thought the fleet was surrendering, and laid down their arms.

The bold, intrepid, and gallant conduct of Maj. Gen. J. Bankhead Magruder, Col. Thomas Green, Maj. Leon Smith and other officers, and of the Texan Rangers and soldiers engaged in the attack on, and victory achieved over, the land and naval forces of the enemy at Galveston, on the 1st of January, 1863, eminently entitle them to the thanks of Congress and the country.

The battle is sometimes called the Second Battle of Galveston



## GEORGIAN FORCES CLAIM FORT PULASKI

On January 3, 1861, sixteen days before the secession of Georgia from the Union, volunteer militia seized Fort Pulaski from the Federal government and, with Confederate forces, began repairing and upgrading the armament. In late 1861, the commander, Department of Georgia, General Alexander Robert Lawton would transfer to Richmond. On November 5, General Robert E. Lee assumed command of the newly created "Department of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida".

Fort Pulaski was considered invincible with its 7-1/2-foot solid brick walls and reinforcing masonry piers. General Robert E. Lee had earlier surveyed the fort's defenses with Colonel Olmstead and determined, "they will make it pretty warm for you here with shells, but they cannot breach your walls at that distance." Wide swampy marshes surrounded the fort on all sides and were infested with native alligators. No attacking ship could safely come within effective range, and land batteries could not be placed closer than Tybee Island, one to two miles away.

Repeated Union naval and amphibious assaults failed 1862–1865, both Union gunboats and ironclads repeatedly suffered

substantial damage and loss by Confederate gunnery and mines.

## GILMER CHRISTMAS PARADE DECEMBER 7, 2019



*Love. Peace. Acceptance. Faith. Trust.  
Beauty.*

All of those words are positive words, and unfortunately, they are also words that we do not hear often enough in our society.

"Happiness often sneaks in through a door you didn't know you left open."

"Be the reason someone smiles. Be the reason someone feels loved and believes in the goodness in people."

# SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS GOING DOWN THE DRAIN OF MADNESS

From: Anti-Neo-Confederate November 2019



**Note:** The Anti Neo Confederate Institute is located in Dallas, Texas.

"I wonder if the SCV hasn't reached a certain stage in its history."

"This would be a stage in which normal people tend to avoid the SCV and the SCV instead more and more attracts persons who are extremists or mentally a little off or both. As the SCV becomes more explicit in its agenda SCV members who are Confederate enthusiasts but not wanting to secede or support the neo-Confederate agenda feel uncomfortable belonging, but this more explicit agenda tends to at the same time attract more extremist elements. This further shifts the SCV to a more extremist agenda and the process repeats. Perhaps this process is already underway in the SCV."

## **Editor Note:**

The above excerpt is an example of what we are fighting against. In our technological age, blog spots and the internet are full of anti SCV material. How do we fight this?

We must do more. Too many spokesmen in the fight for Southern heritage are stand-patters on their way to extinction. They are trying to live in a world that they grew up in but which does not exist anymore. The world that they grew up in accepted Southerners and Southern heritage as a

positive part of America. That world began disappearing a half century ago and is almost gone.

Concentrate on educating yourself and especially the young. Invite people to meetings, hold recruitment events. Let us not fade away.



## THE TRUTH NO LONGER MATTERS

By: James Ronald Kennedy

"All we need to do is tell the truth."

Unfortunately, this simple truism is based upon a false premise. Southern conservatives have been operating on the premise that our opponents share our values regarding truth. *Our enemies have rejected our traditional standard of truth.* Our enemies considered truth to be anything that advances their neo-Marxist agenda and they consider falsehood to be anything that supports traditional American and especially Southern values. The vast majority of Southern conservatives have yet to comprehend that fact in the current politically correct U.S.A.

Surely truth matters to traditional Southern conservatives but we are an unrecognized and virtually disenfranchised minority in what has become a secular humanist America. The Left's attack against President Trump serves as an excellent example of their total disregard for truth as traditionally defined in Western culture.



The politically correct Left is engaged in a continuing effort to destroy the duly elected President. One thing is for certain; we do not win by trying to convince our enemies about the truthfulness of our claims. We must pressure "our" elected official to boldly and publicly defend our Southern heritage and to cut off the supply of brainwashing stations in "our" educational system. Otherwise, the day will quickly come in which truth no longer matters even in the Bible-Belt.



### A SPECIAL WORD FOR CONFEDERATES WHO JOINED THE US ARMY

Being a POW was not a great way to spend your enlistment in the Civil War, no matter which side you fought on. Depending on which POW camp you ended up locked into, your chances of survival were only slightly better.

Some Confederate troops had no problem turning around and joining the U.S. Army. They were called "Galvanized Yankees."

By 1863, Union lines were becoming stricken by desertions. Coupled with the death rate and the number of wounded and

missing men, the U.S. Army in 1863 needed a solution for this coming manpower shortage in a hurry. And it wasn't just the Army fighting the Civil War who needed the help. Troops fighting Indian bands in the West needed augmentees as well.

So the Union formed the 1st Volunteer Infantry Regiment; former Confederate soldiers who had been captured, taken the oath of loyalty to the United States, and enlisted in the U.S. Army.

Starting in 1863, the former Confederates stared down the Sioux tribe in Missouri while the war back home raged on. When the Confederates heard of this, they dubbed the POWs who took the deal "Galvanized Yankees," covering themselves and their deeds in the blue of the Union, the way a metal object is galvanized with a coating of zinc.

### ANIMALS HAD FREE RUN OF THE SQUARE



*By Mrs. J. M. Hays August 1946*

My first visit to Gilmer was about forty-five years ago, when I came here with my father and brother on a wagon loaded with cotton and meal. My father was a ginner, as his stock in trade.

The square was really a friendly place for pigeons, ducks, geese, chickens, hogs, dogs, horses, mules, and people all mingled



together with one common purpose—to profit from their labors. People were there to sell whatever they could find. The goats loved to go to court. In fact, they acted as door-bailiffs, resting in the shade of the courthouse porches, chewing their cud, and unmindful of whether people could get into the building to testify.

Along about 1901, the city incorporated or re-incorporated and ordinances were passed to banish Mr. Goat from court. But Mr. Tom Chandler or Mr. Perry would trade in goats, and back they would come. On such occasions the Hays Studio porch was their sleeping quarters. We have gone to the door many times armed with broomsticks, old shoes, buckets of water, and other weapons. Mr. Goat would be just beyond range by the time the door was opened. It is needless to say much sweeping and fumigating had to be done after the hasty departure of the unwelcome guests.



## RECOLLECTIONS OF GILMER

*By Mrs. Donie Rees...A Brief History August 1946*

“Old” Judge Lyons, he was a County Judge in Upshur County “an upright and honored citizen of Gilmer for about 30 years” as well as the owner of the newspaper. The printing office stood about where the post office now stands. His death was a tragic

one, and here are the details as I remember them: His partner was a man named Arthur Ashley, who resented Lyon’s use of profanity, especially toward him.

Ashley’s wife was teaching at Emory School about three miles away. One afternoon, soon after she and the children had returned from school, all tired out from her day’s work and the walk home, her husband walked in and she went to the door to greet him with a kiss. At once he began telling her, “Judge Lyons called me a \_\_\_\_ after I had warned him not to curse me. I picked up an iron side-stick,” a heavy printer’s tool and killed him! Then I locked the door and walked out.” Mrs. Ashley fell back across the bed in a dead faint. They worked with her till they revived her, and my parents prevailed on Ashley not to leave at once, as he meant to do, but to remain overnight with his family. This he did, but in the morning he sought safety in flight. It was two or three days before Judge Lyons was missed, and officers broke down the door of the printing office and found him dead. Ashley had got away by this time. Later he was captured in Alabama and brought back here for trial, but he broke jail again on Oct. 23, 1882 and was never heard of any more. If you will go to the city cemetery you will find the grave of Judge Lyons surrounded by an iron fence, and lying in the shade of a big magnolia tree, just about thirty steps from the Coffeerville road. At the head of the grave is a weather-beaten, lichen-covered

graying marble stone which reads: "My husband, J. J. Lyons, died April 5, 1882. The strife is over, the loved of years hath left me with the gathering fears to struggle darkly, and lone...." Mrs. Lyons struggled 17 years before she was laid beside the judge, and the grave stone reads: "Sarah S. Lyons, wife of Judge J. J. Lyons, died January 20, 1899." None of the stones give the date of birth or age.



### WHY IS THE BILL OF RIGHTS IMPORTANT?

This set of laws is highly important because it serves as the basis upon which the rights of every U.S. citizen are upheld. It primarily deals with every basic right that each living individual must have including the ownership of arms, freedom of religion and eminent domain. More importantly, it prohibits people from doing actions that can threaten or even compromise the value of liberty, life and property. In addition, it eliminates biases by upholding laws that are very much respectful to the establishment of religious institutions.

It is the basis where freedom of religion, right to public trials and many other basic rights are upheld in society. Without it, people just cannot live in peace, justice and harmony.



## AMERICAN CIVIL WAR 2: US MEDIA WILL HAVE ONLY ITSELF TO BLAME

### CAUTION:

The media is NOT a reflection of reality.

*By: Robert Bridge*

The drumbeat of civil war has become audible across the United States. The nation looks destined to repeat history thanks to a media that is no longer able to objectively perform its job. The United States' deadliest war to date has been the one that pitted Americans against each other.

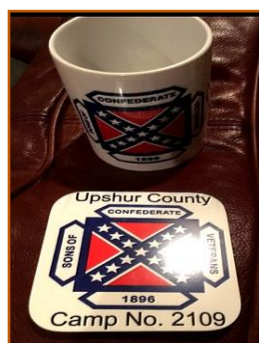
The mainstream media should better appreciate its responsibility for presenting an objective and balanced depiction of modern events. Yet nothing today would suggest that is the case. One need only look at the way it has blotched recent politically charged events.

The US media has an unmistakable agenda. It has shown a devious willingness to betray all journalistic ethics and standards, which has the effect of increasing the political temperature to boiling point.

If the mainstream media continues to slavishly serve just one political master over another, it will only have itself to blame for what comes next. Its prejudiced and agenda-based reporting is a disgrace and really nothing short of a bona fide national security threat.



Coffee Mugs and Coasters  
Caps and Flags are available for a donation  
to our Camp fund. Contact Eddie Pricer or  
any Camp Officer.



We thank Bill Starnes  
And the Starnes Family for  
providing a meeting Place  
for the Upshur Co. Patriots



We are proud to be associated with the  
United Daughters of the Confederacy.



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