

# Patriot's Periodical

## Upshur Co. Patriots Camp #2109

### Sons of Confederate Veterans

#### Gilmer, Texas

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August 2018



### **\*Best Newsletter Award 2<sup>nd</sup> Place\***

**Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans  
Camps Over 50 Members June 2017 Reunion**



### **\*Best Newsletter Award 1<sup>st</sup> Place\***

**Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans  
Camps Over 50 Members June 2016 Reunion**

## **COMMANDER'S CORNER**

By Milt Ojeman



I am pleased to report that Past Commander Phil Davis and I survived our trip to the SCV National Reunion in Franklin, Tennessee. This was my first national reunion and it was a good experience.

The main event of the reunion was the election of a new Commander in Chief. The candidates were our ATM Commander Johnnie Holley and the 1st. Lt. Commander in Chief Paul Grambling. Both men conducted a hard, but clean campaign. Lt. Commander Grambling was elected. After the results were read, Commander Holley went to the podium and congratulated the

new Commander in Chief and pledged his loyalty. Commander Holley has dedicated many years to the SCV and has been a good friend to our camp.

On Thursday we received good news regarding the Forrest Statue that was illegally removed in Memphis. It was announced that a federal judge had just ruled in favor of the SCV by ordering that the City of Memphis is responsible for the statue's storage and safety until all court cases are resolved. This will hopefully protect it from being sold as scrap or otherwise damaged. We were informed that the removal of the statue, which is the headstone of the graves of General Forrest and his wife, was actually a real estate scheme and had nothing to do with General Forrest or the Confederacy. It was because of the development of the downtown Memphis Medical District, funded by some of the wealthiest people in Memphis. One of which is J. R. Hyde, who is the CEO of

AutoZone. They want to use the park for condos and retail shops. In other words it's all about money. Personally, I pledge to remember Mr. Hyde when I need auto parts and avoid AutoZone. We owe a huge thank you to the Memphis area camps and all of the people that have manned the front lines in this fight. There are also folks pressing to have criminal charges filed against the mayor and others involved in desecrating the General's grave.

We all have, at times, wondered why nothing is being done to stop the assaults on our monuments. Well, the SCV is fighting. The problem is that they are outmanned and out funded. It is our duty to help any way that we can. They have won some battles and lost others, but they continue to fight. It was announced that NASCAR driver Sterling Marlin, a SCV member, had contacted Commander in Chief Thomas Strain regarding the SCV endorsing his car. The result is that his car and the big rig that hauls it now display the SCV logo and the 1-800-my-south phone number and are traveling the racing circuit. The response has been great. The team's crew chief reported that as they travel, they get mostly thumbs up, but especially in the north they get an occasional "bird".

I am truly glad that I went. I am thankful that, despite my driving, we had a safe trip. I did overhear Phil, when asked if we had flown; say "yes....on the ground".

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **Next Meeting**

August 7, 2018 - 7 PM  
Walking S Steakhouse



Commander Milt Ojeman (L) and Past Commander Phil Davis at the SCV National Reunion in Columbia, Tn. July 19, 2018



Army of Trans-Mississippi Commander Johnnie Hollie speaking at the National Reunion July 20, 2018.



On Display at the National Reunion  
Sterling Martin Racing  
Sponsored by Sons of Confederate Veterans

## **Camp Leadership**

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Phil Davis, Guardian Program Chairman (R) presents Certificates to his son Larry for Guardianship of the Hunley Crew graves.

## **The Guardian**

By: WDP

The term “guardian” is defined as “a person who guards, protects, or preserves.”

George Washington said: “A nation is judged by how well it treats its veterans.”

Battles during the Civil War left both Union and Confederate soldiers dead near farms, homes, hospitals, and towns. While many soldiers died on battlefields, many more died in hospitals from wounds and disease. Many fallen soldiers remained unidentified. The corpses were often much deteriorated after battle as the result of wounds and decomposition, and many were initially buried in mass graves near where they fell.

All of these Military Veterans deserve our respect. Confederate Veterans that gave everything to fight for our freedoms and way of life should never be forgotten. Countless numbers of our ancestors and compatriots lie in unmarked or unkept graves.





Becoming a Guardian is a way for all of us to give something back to these brave men and the cause for which they fought and died. Visiting and caring for a gravesite is a rewarding experience and I encourage all to take part in this program.

Chairman Davis would ask – ***Are you a Guardian?...if not, Why Not?***



### **Upshur Co. Patriots      Guardians**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Guardian Status</u>	<u>Number of Graves</u>
Phil Davis	Full	29
Kim Duffey	Full	3
Jamie Eitson	Full	1
Larry Harper	Full	1
Jared Jones	Full	1
Justin Jones	Full	1
Chris Loyd	Full	5
George Linton	Full/W/GPT	40
Tommy 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
W=Wilderness    GPT=Guardian Pro Tem		

## **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.

*"Fate is the course when men fail to  
act."*



Congratulations to Paul Gramling.  
Elected as our new Commander In Chief at  
the National Reunion July 21, 2018.

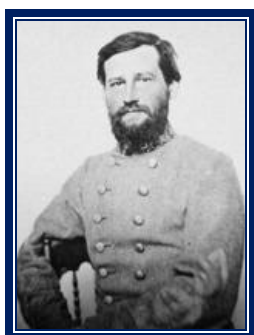


## Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans

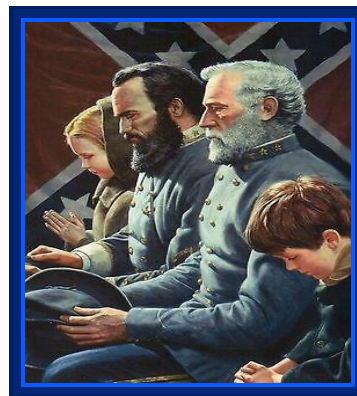
“To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier’s good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved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



*Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson*

## The Greater Duty

By: Mark W. Evans

A religious paper expressed the South’s position in the struggle for constitutional liberty: In this unhappy war we find, on our side, no compromise of Christian Principle. The South has accepted it as a last necessity, an alternative in which there was no choice but submission to a dynasty considered oppressive, and in its very principles antagonistic to her rights and subversive of her existence. The publication concluded, Hence her sons, who are true Christians, have no compunctions of conscience when they go forth in her armies. They find, on the contrary, an approbation of conscience in their decision to fight for their homes and altars. [*Bennett, the Great Revival in the Southern Armies, p. 22*].

Such convictions were sealed to the hearts of those opposing the Northern invader. Their families and homes were in grave danger. Their states had left the Union, not in a disorderly or illegal manner, but through lawful, constitutional assemblies and processes. Yet, even beyond the righteous duty of defending their constitutional rights, they perceived a

greater duty to honor the Lord. A Christian paper of the Confederacy warned: No Christian duty or work should be intermitted, because greater events than we have yet known are passing in review and obtruding upon our anxious minds. Great as they are, the work of a Christian is greater still. Our duty may be done to our country, but we are undone if it be not discharged toward God. Peace may come to the land, while war springs up between our hearts and God. A worldly inheritance may be gained, and yet its cost may be the sacrifice of a heavenly. A great republic may rise out of the chaos around us, while the kingdom of heaven, which should be our first love and our constant care, may come secondary in Our affection. [Bennett, p. 95].

The lesson gleaned from our Christian relatives is that no labor is in vain in the Lord. What was true then is also true now. While duty to family and country and other obligations require faithful diligence, the greatest duty, according to the One who never told a lie, is: Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. (Matthew 6:33).

*“Let us pray for ourselves, that we may not lose the word concern out of our Christian vocabulary. Let us pray for our nation. Let us pray for those who have never known Jesus Christ and redeeming love, for moral forces everywhere, for our national leaders. Let prayer be our passion. Let prayer be our practice.”....Robert E. Lee*



Front row from left: Phil Davis, past commander Upshur County Patriots and Caroline Marshall, president museum board of directors; second row: Esther Linton, Gwen Jewett, museum coordinator and Karla Jones; and third row, Eddie Turner, museum board member, George Linton and Mayor Tim Marshall.

## **HISTORIC UPSHUR MUSEUM RECEIVES DONATION**

By: E. Pricer

Friday July 6, 2018 saw members of the Upshur County Patriots Camp of the Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting with Community Leaders and Museum Officials at the Historic Upshur Museum located at 119 Simpson Street on the square in downtown Gilmer. The gathering included many stories, making new friends and talk of the importance of the Historic Upshur Museum and its dedication to preserving history and fostering a greater awareness of our past and the impact on our future.

The Upshur County Patriots along with the former Patriot Rose Camp took this opportunity to present a \$400.00 donation to the Historic Upshur Museum. Also, at the presentation were ladies from the local United Daughters of the Confederacy Emma Sansom Chapter 2701.



Accepting the donation were Museum Board President Carolyn Marshall and Museum Coordinator Gwen Jewett. The donation was presented by Phil Davis, past Commander of the Upshur County Patriots. On hand were Mayor Tim Marshall and Museum Board Member Eddie Turner.

The Museum relies on membership dues and donations such as this to fund its operations. In the past, the museum received some funding from various governmental agencies in the form of grants or direct expenditures, however those funds have not been made available for some time. Residents of Upshur County are encouraged to support the Museum by becoming members of the Museum Association. The annual dues are affordable for almost everyone and information regarding rates may be found on the Museum's website ([historicupshurmuseum.com](http://historicupshurmuseum.com)) under the Get Involved tab. Groups utilizing the Museums facilities and/or research efforts should consider annual donations as well.

Guests at the event were treated to an early preview of a pictorial exhibit prepared by Museum Coordinator Gwen Jewett for the Valley View High School Reunion. The Valley View School was established in the late 1890s for the education of African-American children in the Valley View area of Upshur County. Besides her museum duties, Gwen is also Chairperson of the Upshur County Historical Commission and has been instrumental in the review and coordination between groups for the approval and placement of Texas Historical Markers within the county.

"Our history is important to us, without it how can we learn from our past mistakes. Continuing to provide accurate historical information is one facet of our Museum's operations. We must support our Museum both financially and volunteering time as a docent," said Phil Davis.

*--An edited version of this article appeared in the Gilmer Mirror July 19, 2018.*

Shortly after this article appeared, former Gilmerite James "Jimmie" Stephens, on behalf his family presented the Historic Upshur Museum with a \$100,000.00 donation. A related article appeared in the Gilmer Mirror July 26, 2018.



**Wedding Photo**

**Varina Howell & Jefferson Davis, 1845**

From: Encyclopedia Virginia

Varina Howell Davis was the second wife of Confederate president Jefferson Davis and the First Lady of the Confederacy during the American Civil War (1861–1865). She was manifestly ill-suited for this role because of her family background, education, personality, physical appearance, and her fifteen-year antebellum residence in Washington, D.C. (She once declared that the worst years of her life were spent in the Confederate capital at Richmond while the

happiest were in Washington.) A native of the urban South, she always preferred the city to the country, and after her husband died in 1889, she moved to New York, where she resided until her death in 1906. When her husband was appointed Confederate president in 1861, she reluctantly followed him to the South. In June 1861, she confided to her mother that the South did not have the resources to win the war, but she had to do her duty; when it was all over, she said, she would "run with the rest." The Davises fled Richmond in the spring of 1865, but they were captured in Georgia in May. The widow Sarah Dorsey then invited them to live at her estate, Beauvoir, in rural Mississippi

After 1865, the Davises were still famous, celebrities in the modern sense. Varina Davis was a gracious hostess, but she admitted to a friend that she tired of the throng of visitors. Moreover, she felt that Beauvoir was Sarah Dorsey's house, and she had always preferred urban life to country living. After Jefferson Davis died of pneumonia in 1889, Davis and her daughter Winnie Davis moved to New York City.



## **HISTORICAL DATES IN AUGUST**

**August 3, 1492** - Christopher Columbus set sail from Palos, Spain.

**August 2, 1776** - In Philadelphia, most of the 55 members of the Continental Congress signed the parchment copy of the Declaration of Independence.

**August 5, 1861** - President Abraham Lincoln signed into law the first Federal income tax.

**August 9, 1862** - Battle of Cedar Mountain, Virginia.

**August 28-30, 1862** - Second Battle of Bull Run Manassas, Virginia.

**August 29, 1862** - Battle of Richmond, Kentucky.

**August 21, 1863** - At Lawrence, Kansas a raid took place by William C. Quantrill and 450 pro-slavery followers.

**August 6, 1945** - The first Atomic Bomb was dropped over the center of Hiroshima at 8:15 a.m., by the American B-29 bomber Enola Gay.

**August 9, 1945** - The second Atomic bombing of Japan occurred.

**August 18, 1920** - The 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, granting women the right to vote.



## **THE BATTLE OF RICHMOND**

From: [thoughtco.com](http://thoughtco.com)

In 1862, Confederate Major General Kirby Smith ordered an offensive into Kentucky. The advance team was led by Brigadier General Patrick R. Cleburne who had his cavalry led by Colonel John S. Scott out front. On August 29th, the cavalry began a



skirmish with Union troopers on the road to Richmond, Kentucky. By noon, the Union infantry and artillery had joined the fight, causing the Confederates to retreat to Big Hill. Pressing his advantage, Union Brigadier General Mahlon D. Manson sent a brigade to march towards Rogersville and the Confederates.

The day ended with a brief skirmish between the Union forces and Cleburne's men. During the evening both Manson and Cleburne discussed the situation with their superior officers. Union Major General William Nelson ordered another brigade to attack. Confederate Major General Kirby Smith gave Cleburne the order to attack and promised reinforcements.

In the early morning hours, Cleburne marched north, won against Union skirmishers, and approached the Union line near Zion Church. Over the course of the day, reinforcements arrived for both sides.

After exchanging artillery fire, the troops attacked. The Confederates were able to push through the Union right, causing them to retreat to Rogersville. They tried to make a stand there. At this point, Smith and Nelson had taken command of their own armies. Nelson attempted to rally the troops, but the Union soldiers were routed.

Nelson and some of his men were able to escape. However, by the end of the day 4,000 Union soldiers were captured. More significantly, the way north was open for the Confederates to advance.



## **The Top Ten Civil War Songs**

1. "I Wish I Was in Dixie's Land" ("Dixie")
2. "John Brown's Body" ("Battle Hymn of the Republic")
3. "Home Sweet Home"
4. "Battle Cry of Freedom" ("Rally Round the Flag")
5. "Bonnie Blue Flag" ("We Are a Band of Brothers")
6. "Maryland, My Maryland"
7. "Lorena"
8. "We Are Coming, Father Abraham" ("300,000 More")
9. "Tenting on the Old Camp Ground"
10. "All Quiet Along the Potomac Tonight"

## **The Photos Below are from the Ore City 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade**

Thank You to All who Participated





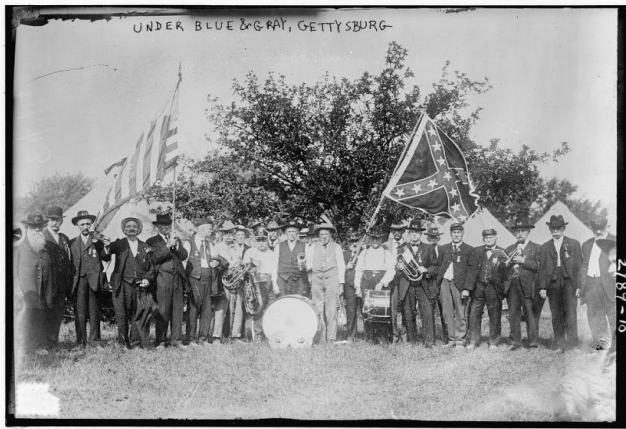
Thanks to ATM Commander Johnnie Holley  
for bringing his Artillery



### Friendly Reminder

Texas Hunting and Fishing Licenses expire  
on August 31st. Don't forget to renew  
yours before your next sporting activity.





## **The Gettysburg Reunion** **June 29-July 4, 1913**

### ***Editorial:***

*"Comrades and friends, these splendid statues of marble and granite and bronze shall finally crumble to dust, and in the ages to come, will perhaps be forgotten, but the spirit that has called this great assembly of our people together, on this field, shall live forever."* - Dr. Nathaniel D. Cox at 1913 Gettysburg Reunion

*"I believe it to be the duty of everyone to unite in the restoration of the country and the reestablishment of peace and harmony."*

Robert E. Lee

A gathering of 53,407 veterans at Gettysburg in 1913 was the largest ever Civil War veteran reunion, and "never before in the world's history had so great a number of men so advanced in years been assembled under field conditions.

Confederate and Union Veterans, who had been in bitter and brutal conflict only 50 years before, put aside their differences and

came together peacefully. These men shared an encampment, meals, and social activities.

What a sad state of affairs we are in today when politics are tearing family and friends apart. We have all experienced that person, friend or relative who miligns us for no other reason than who we voted for in the last election. We have groups, oranizations and even Elected Representatives in Congress calling for "push back" disruption and sometimes violence for those that they disagree with.

Can't we take an example from our Ancestors on civility? People will always disagree and have strong feelings about ideals that are important to them. How we handle these differences is what is important.

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## **Some Court Cases of the Upshur Co.** **District Court 1854-1871**

*From: bryansite*

**1880-1910** about half of indictments were for carrying a pistol, there were many cases of selling whiskey on Sunday.

**1856** a man was sent to prison for 2 years for enticing a slave.

**1867** they called many men for jury service but none could serve on the jury because they would not take the oath that they had not served nor taken part in the Civil War.

**1871** there was a case against a Longview man (Longview was in Upshur County then) for "Keeping disorderly house known as the 'Lady Gay Saloon'."

**1880** the Commissioners Court gave permission for the Cotton Belt Railway to



come thru Gilmer with the understanding it must stay 1 mile from the courthouse.

**1881** there were 5 indictments for killing unmarked hogs.

**1883** the Upshur County jury returned a verdict of death by hanging against a man. The county paid W.A. ROBERTS \$64 to build a gallows and everything was set up and ready for the hanging. Later the man went completely crazy, was tried for insanity and sent to Terrell.

**1886** there were 74 indictments 44 for "Betting on Chuckluck", a game played with dice, 16 cases for selling whiskey on Sunday.

**1890 - 1912** when a person was put in jail or was fined and could not pay it, they put him on a chain gang, where he was allowed 50 cents a day to work off his fine.

**1895** convicts could work off their fines on streets, roads, bridges and cutting wood. The county hired a guard and paid him \$1 a day to work the convicts. In 1912 the chain gang system ended.



## **Texas Leads Nation in Confederate Monument Removal**

*From: KXAN/Wes Rapaport  
June 5, 2018*

More Confederate statues and monuments have been removed in Texas than in any

other state since 2015. Of the 110 symbols removed since June 2015, 31 of them were in Texas. Virginia was next with 14, and Florida removed 9. The data starts in June 2015 because that is when a gunman opened fire inside a Charleston, South, church, killing nine people. That shooting sparked a nationwide conversation about racial relations and Confederacy after the shooter was tied to white nationalism.

A UT/TT poll, released in October 2017, revealed 34 percent of Texans supported leaving the statues and monuments unchanged, while 30 percent preferred moving them to a museum. Twenty-two percent wanted them to remain — but with context — 8 percent wished they would be removed all together, and 6 percent said they were not sure. Broken down by party, 55 percent of Republicans argued for leaving the symbols "as is," while 56 percent of Democrats supported moving the statues and monuments to a museum.



## **Acoustic Music Night**



Some of our Camp members perform an Acoustic Music Jam twice a month at the Walking S Steakhouse. This takes place every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday from 6pm – 8pm. Bring your instrument and join in or just come by for the music.

*Show your support for the Restaurant that generously provides our Camp a meeting location.*

## **\*DUES\***

**If you have already paid your dues for the coming year...Thank You.  
If Not...The deadline nears.**



### **Federal Court Confirms Second Amendment Protects Right to Carry in Public**

From: NRA July 24, 2018

The National Rifle Association Institute for Legislative Action (NRA-ILA) applauded a ruling by a three-judge panel of the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals on Tuesday that confirmed the Second Amendment protects the right to carry a firearm outside the home for self-defense.

"This is a critical issue for law-abiding gun owners who want to exercise their right to self-defense outside the home," said Chris W. Cox, executive director, NRA-ILA. "The Second Amendment clearly protects the right to bear arms in public."

The ruling reversed a decision by a Hawaii district court that upheld Hawaii's ban on carriage outside the home.

"This is an important ruling that confirms what NRA members already know—the right

to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed," Cox concluded.

*"The panel acknowledged that while the concealed carry of firearms categorically falls outside Second Amendment Protection, it was satisfied that the Second Amendment encompasses a right to carry a firearm openly in public for self-defense."* - *Young V. State of Hawaii*



### **National Elections Results**

21 July 2018 Franklin, Tn.

Commander-in-Chief - Paul Gramling Jr; Louisiana

Lt Commander-in-Chief - Larry Allen McCluney Jr; Tennessee

Commander, Trans-Mississippi Dept - Darrell Maples; Missouri

Councilman, Trans-Mississippi Dept - J C Hanna; Louisiana

### **Hang Gliding**

By: Steve Edmondson, Prince George, Virginia

A few Virginia boys were up in the Blue Ridge hang gliding one day when a couple of yankees came along.

"What are youse guys doing," they asked.

"Hang gliding," replied one of the Southern boys. "Want to give it a try."

"Well maybe... but I've never done it before," volunteered one of the yankees. The Virginians assured the yank that there was nothing to it. So they hooked him up, waited on the right wind, and off he went,

sailing over the valley just as pretty as you please.

About this time a couple of good ole boys are in the valley hunting. One of them looks up and exclaims, "Bubba, look up yonder at that thing!"

Squinting against the sunlight Bubba sees it and then lets go with a couple rounds.

"Did you get em?" asks the first hunter. Bubba squirts out a stream of tobacco juice.

"Naw, but I made it drop that damn yankee."



We thank the Starnes family and everyone at



the Walking 'S' Steakhouse for their hospitality and for providing a meeting place for the Upshur Co. Patriots. Open for dining Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights.



Coffee Mugs and Coasters

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



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



Comments or suggestions should be made to: David Palmer, Editor  
[david.palmer@upshurpatriots.org](mailto:david.palmer@upshurpatriots.org)