



**PATRIOT'S PERIODICAL**  
UPSHUR CO. PATRIOTS CAMP #2109  
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS  
GILMER, TEXAS

©COPYRIGHT 2024

Meetings are the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of  
Each Month at 7 PM  
at the Historic Upshur Museum  
[www.upshurpatriots.org](http://www.upshurpatriots.org)

**JANUARY 2024**

***From: The Confederate Veteran January  
1900***

“No. We did not want war and we did not inaugurate it. All we asked was to be let alone. But the North, which had become more populous and powerful than the South, determined to preserve her commercial interests, hence the war. If the people of the North had believed that they could have been happier and richer without the South than with her, what rational ground would they then have to expend six billions of money and sacrifice a half million of lives to keep the South in the Union? If the South had been allowed to go in peace, as she desired to do, the North would have lost her richest taxing district. We were and are no more traitors and rebels than George Washington and his contemporaries.

Finally, let no man, unchallenged, asperse the memory of our sacred dead, our fallen comrades, with the charge of treason and

rebellion. They fell in defense of the liberty and independence of their country, consequently, were heroes and patriots.”

**CAMP LEADERSHIP  
UPSHUR COUNTY  
PATRIOTS CAMP #2109**

**COMMANDER**

**DAVID PALMER  
(903) 237-8941**

[david.palmer@upshurpatriots.org](mailto:david.palmer@upshurpatriots.org)

**1ST LT. COMMANDER**

**JERRY AKIN  
(903) 434-6318**

[jerrypakin@gmail.com](mailto:jerrypakin@gmail.com)

**2ND LT. COMMANDER**

**RODNEY LOVE  
(903) 733-0932**

[snakeman@aol.com](mailto:snakeman@aol.com)

**ADJUTANT**

**DON LOYD  
(903) 797-6922**

[donrloyd@etex.net](mailto:donrloyd@etex.net)



## THE GUARDIAN

Winter weather over time can take a toll on a monument, whether they are made of granite, bronze or other materials. All the dust and debris resting on the monument sticks to the stone due to the moisture in the atmosphere. Sometimes, this makes it look like the monument is fading and the lettering is ageing. Cold temperatures, snow, and rain are just a few harsh winter conditions that monuments undergo.

It is important that you keep the headstone clean and that there is no dust or debris on the stone. Otherwise, as mentioned, due to rain and snow, the dust and debris will stick to the stone.

It would seem like using a sealant would be a good idea to protect the monument from the winter weather, but these could do more harm than good. Sealants actually lock in the minerals and moisture inside the stone, preventing it from breathing. The best way to maintain your monument is by making any repairs right away. If there are any cracks, chips or flaws in the stone, repair them before winter. During winter, water will seep into these cracks and as temperatures reach below zero, the water

will freeze and expand, making the cracks worse.

Join the SCV Guardian Program and give proper recognition to the brave ancestors that gave their lives to protect the South.

***"If you're not a Guardian, why not?"***

Contact Guardian Program Chairman Bill Elliot for information at: [etaia@att.net](mailto:etaia@att.net)



## UPSHUR CO. PATRIOTS GUARDIANS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Guardian Status</u>	<u>Number of Graves</u>
Phil Davis	Full	31
Kim Duffey	Full	3
Chris Loyd	Full	5
George Linton	Full/W/GPT	51
Eddie Pricer	Full/GPT	40
Milt Ojeman	Full/GPT	4
David Palmer	Full	1
Tommy Ray	Full/GPT	19
Bill Starnes	Full/W/GPT	7
Frank Smith	Full	2
Gregg Gipe	GPT	3

W=Wilderness GPT=Guardian Pro Tem

Special Recognition to Compatriot Rodney Love for his Guardianship over 50 graves.

## CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY TO BE REMOVED

foxnews.com



The Reconciliation Monument, known as the Confederate Statue, is part of the push to remove military

installations named after the Confederacy in the wake of the summer 2020 Black Lives Matter protests. According to a press release from the national cemetery, the statue will be removed from the cemetery by Dec. 22. The effort to remove the statue is in compliance with the Congressional mandate to remove all Confederate memorials by Jan. 1, 2024.

The Confederate Memorial is a memorial in Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington County, Virginia, in the United States, that commemorates members of the armed forces of the Confederate States of America who died during the American Civil War. Authorized in March 1906, former Confederate soldier and sculptor Moses Jacob Ezekiel was commissioned by the United Daughters of the Confederacy in November 1910 to design the memorial. It was unveiled by President Woodrow Wilson on June 4, 1914, the 106th anniversary of the birth of Jefferson Davis, the President of the Confederate States of America.



## 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.

*"I have never on the field of battle sent you where I was unwilling to go myself, nor would I now advise you to a course which I felt myself unwilling to pursue. You have been good soldiers. You can be good citizens. Obey the laws, preserve your honor, and the government to which you have surrendered can afford to be and will be magnanimous."*

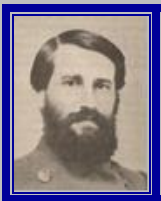
*Nathan Bedford Forrest*



## 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.”



In 1906 General Stephen D. Lee, Commander-in-Chief of the United Confederate Veterans, gave a charge to the next generation of Southerners. This charge has defined the mission of the Sons of Confederate Veterans ever since.

*Never stand and take a charge... charge them too.  
Nathan Bedford Forrest*



## LOOKING FORWARD IN 2024

In this new year, we can look forward to a time of new beginnings and fresh starts. As Christians, we have an even greater reason to celebrate the coming of the new year – our faith in Christ! This New Year’s season brings with it an opportunity for us to reflect on our faith and seek out what God has called us to do.

*“So be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid and do not panic before them.” – Deuteronomy 31:6 NLT*

*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding.” – Proverbs 3:5 NLL*

With each new dawn comes a fresh start; may Jesus bring many blessings along with it! Here’s wishing you abundance & joy in the days ahead! Here’s wishing you an extraordinary adventure every single day throughout 2024! May God bless every step & decision that you make throughout this coming year.



## HISTORICAL EVENTS IN JANUARY

### 1861

**January 2** - South Carolina troops seize Fort Johnson in Charleston Harbor.

**January 3** - Georgia state troops seize Fort Pulaski.

**January 4** - Alabama state troops seize the U.S. Arsenal at Mount Vernon, Alabama.

**January 20** - Mississippi state troops seize Ship Island in the Gulf of Mississippi.

**January 24** - Georgia state troops seize the U.S. Arsenal at Augusta.

### 1862

**January 10** - Engagement at Middle Creek, Kentucky.

**January 19** - Battle of Mill Springs (Logan's Crossroads), Kentucky.

**January 22** - Bombardment of Fort Henry, Tennessee by USS *Lexington*.

### 1863

**January 9 to 11** - The Battle of Arkansas Post (Fort Hindman), Arkansas.

**January 12** - Skirmish at Lick Creek, Arkansas.

**January 31** - Confederate ironclads temporarily break the blockade in Charleston Harbor.

### 1864

**January 11** - Rosser's Raid in West Virginia

**January 18** - Skirmish at Grand Gulf, Mississippi.

**January 23** - Skirmish near Newport, Tennessee.

**January 27** - Engagement at Fair Gardens (Kelly's Ford), Tennessee.

**January 28** - Operations around New Bern, North Carolina.

**January 29** - Cavalry skirmish at Medley, West Virginia.



## SIEGE OF FORT PULASKI

*Wikipedia*

Fort Pulaski was built as a "Third System" fort in the United States system of coastal defense on land ceded to the United States by the State of Georgia. Fort Pulaski is located on Cockspur Island, Georgia, near the mouth of the Savannah River. The fort commanded seaward approaches to the City of Savannah. The city was commercially and industrially important as a cotton exporting port, railroad center and the largest manufacturing center in the state, including a state arsenal and private shipyards.

On January 3, 1861, sixteen days before the secession of Georgia from the Union, volunteer militia seized Fort Pulaski from the Federal government. Charles Olmstead, a Savannah cotton merchant, marched into Fort Pulaski with the militia.

Olmstead and the new garrison had their work cut out for them. Fort Pulaski had

been neglected over the years and it had very few working cannon, the quarters were unfit to live in, and the moat was filled with marsh grass and mud. The Georgians spent months restoring the fort to a livable and defensible state.



## MILL SPRINGS LOGAN'S CROSSROAD

[battlefields.org](http://battlefields.org)

On January 19, 1862, Confederate forces under General Felix Zollicoffer attacked Federals under the command of General George H. Thomas at the Battle of Mill Springs, resulting in the death of Zollicoffer and a Union victory in Kentucky.

Although Zollicoffer's primary responsibility was guarding Cumberland Gap, he instead advanced west into Kentucky in November 1861 to strengthen control around Somerset. Once in the area, he moved his force across the Cumberland River and created a fortified camp near Mill Springs. He hoped to threaten Federal forces near Somerset under Schoepf. However, once the Federals discovered that Zollicoffer had moved across the river toward Mill Springs, Union General George Thomas received orders to attack the Confederates.

### Forces Engaged

Union - 4,400 Confederate - 5,900

Intense fighting materialized around what was known as the Old Road, where the Confederates launched several repeated assaults along the road. At the fight's climax, Confederates from the 15th Mississippi Infantry almost broke through the Federal line but were stopped by reinforcements from Thomas, which drove the Confederates back down the hill.

Unbeknownst to the Confederates, Federal reinforcements from Schoepf arrived on the field and launched a spirited attack against the Confederate right, which broke the line. Only a rear-guard action saved the Confederate Army.



## DECEMBER MEETING

Our December Meeting was held at the Historic Leather Factory Building on the square in Gilmer.

Our sincere thanks to:

Hadden Starnes, Bill Starnes, Red Yauch & the Yauch Family.





*leather lines and breechings that hitched horses and mules to gun carriages, wagons and ambulances, to move armies through campaigns and battles. Leather was obtained from a local tanyard that treated over 2,000 hides a year. East Texas plants furnished the South 900 sets of harness and 300 saddles monthly during the war."*

During the Civil War, Gilmer businesses provided hats and leather goods to the Confederate States of America.

In its early years Gilmer served as a cotton-ginning center; it once had six gins in operation, and one continued until the 1950s. In 1890 farmers in the county began producing sweet potatoes but had to quarantine the crop in the late 1920s because of an infestation of sweet-potato weevils.



*"A new year is unfolding—like a blossom with petals curled tightly concealing the beauty within.*

*Lord, let this year be filled with the things that are truly good—with the comfort of warmth in our relationships, with the strength to help those who need our help and the humility and openness to accept help from others.*

*As we make our resolutions for the year ahead, let us go forward with great hope that all things can be possible—with Your help and guidance."*



*"On this site during the Civil War, a shoe factory converted leather into footgear for the Confederate Army. A harness factory nearby made bridles and saddles and*

## GEN. JOHN GREGG CAMP CHRISTMAS GATHERING

The General John Gregg Camp held their Christmas Meeting/Christmas Gathering on December 21<sup>st</sup>. A potluck dinner was enjoyed by all.



**Camp Commander Sam Mercer**



**5<sup>th</sup> Brigade Commander Bill Elliot**



**Author Mark Vogl spoke on Christmas at the Lee house.**

## THE GREAT DEPRESSION REACHES UPSHUR COUNTY



*tshaonline.org*

The county's agricultural difficulties during the depression were offset to some extent by the discovery of oil in the county. On April 26, 1931, the Mudge Oil Company's J. D. Richardson well No. 1 struck oil, demonstrating that the northern limits of the East Texas oilfield extended into Upshur County. By the end of May twelve wells were in production. Thousands of people moved to the area in search of jobs and other opportunities. In 1938 more than 12,366,000 barrels of oil were produced. In addition to providing jobs and stimulating business, the oil boom provided new revenue to the county; by the end of 1937, for example, oil money had helped the county to construct a new white brick courthouse. In July 1938 the Upshur Rural Electric Cooperative turned on the lights for its first 139 members. Primarily because of the oil boom Upshur County's population rose significantly during the 1930s to reach 26,178 by 1940. Petroleum remained an important part of the economy for many years, but production declined during and after the 1940s, dropping to just over 9,000,000 barrels in 1944, to about 6,074,000 barrels in 1948, and to 2,971,000 barrels in 1956. Meanwhile cotton production continued to decline, and farm consolidation and mechanization forced many of the rural inhabitants to search for jobs in metropolitan areas.





## INCOME TAXES

*archives.gov*

As all working Americans know, April 15th is “tax day.” That’s the day our income tax returns are due. However, the power to levy taxes on individuals was not part of the original Constitution as written by our Founding Fathers. It wasn’t until the Sixteenth Amendment was ratified in 1913 that Congress was officially given the power to tax incomes.

However, a law passed by Congress in 1862 actually authorized the first income tax. This act was passed as an emergency measure to finance the Union cause in the Civil War. Taxes were levied on residents of all states and territories not in rebellion. States that seceded were included in the tax base as soon as Union troops established control. Georgians paid income taxes in 1865 even though their state was not officially readmitted to the Union until 1870.

The income tax collected during the Civil War period was the first tax paid on individual incomes by residents of the United States. An annual tax was levied on all income in excess of \$600, and legacies and distributive shares of personal property were made taxable.

These taxes were not repealed until 1872.



During the Civil War, food shortages were common, and soldiers needed to be able to carry food for days. Consequently, the food they ate was meant to keep people alive, with a rare delight mixed in here and there.



Johnny cakes worked on the same principle as hardtack: simple, easy to make food that could be easily stored. They were also called “journey cakes” as they could be taken on a long journey. The recipe for johnny cakes consisted mainly of cornmeal, hot water, milk, salt, and, if you were lucky, a little bit of sugar. These were also easy to cook over a campfire as they were fried in a pan over an open fire with the bacon drippings from an earlier meal. Here's how to try some for yourself:

### **Ingredients:**

- 1 cup cornmeal
- $\frac{3}{4}$  teaspoon salt
- $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon sugar
- 1 cup water
- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup milk
- Bacon drippings

Combine the cornmeal, salt, and sugar in a bowl. Boil the water and then add slowly as you stir the dry ingredients. Add the milk a

little at a time to make sure the batter is not too runny. Heat the bacon grease in a cast iron skillet and drop in the batter by the spoonful. Brown on both sides and serve while hot.



Union soldiers guarding Confederate prisoners. Circa 1861-1865



Manassas, Virginia 1862

Upcoming Events may be found on the Calendar at: [www.upshurpatriots.org](http://www.upshurpatriots.org)



Thank you to the Historic Upshur Museum for providing our meeting location.

The Patriot's Periodical is a multi-award-winning Publication by a Camp in the Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans. Comments or suggestions should be made to: David Palmer, 1st Lt. Commander/Editor [david.palmer@upshurpatriots.org](mailto:david.palmer@upshurpatriots.org)



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

