



# PATRIOT'S PERIODICAL

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

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MARCH 2021

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

## A COUNTRY DIVIDED

From: *realamericanpundit*

The pledge of allegiance is something that, as Americans, we've learned to recite. We pledge allegiance to our country as well as to the Republic. We are "one nation" and it demands "liberty and justice for all."

The problem with our country at the moment is that it is divided. Various terrorist organizations like Antifa and Black Lives Matter have determined they don't want one nation. They also claim that we're not offering liberty and justice for all – only to certain groups.

As many say, we have to forget about past transgressions. We have to forget that there have been people supporting politicians we were not in favor of. We also have to have patience.

America is broken, but it can be healed. There has to be respect. Respect for different opinions, and for the sanctity of human life.

Right now, everyone's filled with anxiety. Many are afraid to speak out because the

Liberal activists are so loud and so aggressive. Social media also has to stop filtering out only one opinion. They can be "social" or they can be the "media" but they cannot continue to exist as they are right now because only one side is being heard.

For decades, we have believed that we are one nation. Yet, now, there are those who want to tear us apart.



The citizen-soldiers who fought for the Confederacy personified the best qualities of America. The preservation of liberty and freedom was the motivating factor in the South's decision to fight Northern Aggression. Today, the Sons of Confederate Veterans is preserving the history and legacy of these heroes so that future generations can understand the motives that animated the Southern Cause.

*Our South, our Confederate history, and by extension, our Confederate battle flag, have suffered for many years from the relentless hatchet job of false propaganda.*

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**THE GUARDIAN**

*The Southern Cross of Honor is a military decoration meant to honor the officers, noncommissioned officers, and privates for their valor in the armed forces of the Confederate States of America during the American Civil War. It was formally approved by the Congress of the Confederate States on October 13, 1862.*

In respect to gravestones, the U.S. Veterans Administration issued Confederate stones with the Southern Cross of Honor symbol engraved at the top. It is only issued by the V.A. for graves of Confederate veterans. Another form for the Southern Cross of Honor is a cast iron reproduction of the medal described above. It is usually atop a metal rod and placed in the ground at the Confederate soldier's grave.

The Marker Is A Way To Give The Descendants of Or Interested Persons of the Deceased Soldiers Of The Confederacy In The War Between the States a Medal of Honor to their Unselfish Devotion In Service to Southern Independence, 1861 To 1865.

*The SCV Guardian Program is in place to honor our Confederate Ancestors. Consider taking part in this worthwhile program.*

*Contact Program Chairman Phil Davis for information at: [pdavis37@etex.net](mailto:pdavis37@etex.net)*



## 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/GPT	8
Chris Loyd	Full	5
George Linton	Full/W/GPT	46
T. Mitchell/G. Linton	Full	5
Eddie Pricer	Full/GPT	40
Milt Ojeman	Full/GPT	4
David Palmer	Full	1
Bill Palmer	Full	10
Tommy Ray	Full/GPT	19
Bill Starnes	Full/W/GPT	7
Frank Smith	Full	2
Mitch Tyson	Full	3
Gregg Gipe	GPT	3

W=Wilderness GPT=Guardian Pro Tem



*If you are interested in perpetuating the ideals that motivated your Confederate ancestor, the SCV needs you.*

*The memory and reputation of the Confederate soldier, as well as the motives for his suffering and sacrifice, are being consciously distorted by some in an attempt to alter history. Unless the descendants of Southern soldiers resist those efforts, a unique part of our nation's cultural heritage will cease to exist.*

## 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 descendant 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

*“The SCV’s Best Hope for Success is  
Knowledge of the Truth”*



## BEYOND THE SUFFERING THIS YEAR

By: Ray Pritchard

*“There is No Growth without Struggle”  
James 1:2-4*

Things break. Our bodies wear out. We grow old and die. People kill each other. Marriages break up. Our friends disappoint us and we disappoint our friends.

Because we live in a fallen world, bad things happen to all of us. We have no control over many things that happen to us or to those around us. We do have complete control over how we respond. We encounter God’s grace through our trials in ways that would not happen if the trials had not come in the first place. It takes a mature Christian to understand this principle, and ironically, it is this principle that makes us mature.

“Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds” (James 1:2). James begins by reminding us that sooner or later we will all face trials of various sorts. James isn’t talking about a “natural” reaction. He’s talking about a “supernatural” reaction made possible by the Holy Spirit who enables us to see and to respond from God’s point of view.

Counting it all joy is a conscious choice we make when hard times come. Truthfully, it's probably a choice we'll have to make again and again. And to do it we'll have to take the long view of life, to understand that what we see is not the final chapter of the story.

Remind yourself of the promises of God. Give thanks for what you can give thanks for and refuse to give in to bitterness and despair. Make up your mind to go on with life. Our perspective makes all the difference. Our trials are not sent to make us fall, every hard trial is another step on the stairway that leads from earth to Heaven.

### COVID-19 in East Texas

kltv.com

#### Upshur County

As of February 25, 2021

459 active cases, 59 deaths, 2,603 recoveries

Texas reported two deaths and 11 recoveries on Feb. 25

## HISTORICAL DATES IN MARCH



### 1861

**March 4**...The "Stars and Bars" is named as the first official flag of the Confederate States of America by the Confederate Congress.

**March 6**...The Provisional Army of the Confederate States is established by the Confederate government.

**March 16**...The Confederate States Marine Corps is founded by the Confederate Congress.

### 1862

**March 7-8**...Battle of Pea Ridge (Elkhorn Tavern), Arkansas.

**March 9**...the historical battle of the U.S.S. Monitor against the C.S.S. Virginia (formerly the U.S.S. Merrimac) by Norfolk, VA. ends in a draw and the end of the era of wooden ships.

**March 8-9**...Battle of Hampton Roads, Virginia.

**March 3-April 8**...Siege of New Madrid and Island No. 10, Missouri (Mississippi River).

**March 14**...The Battle of New Bern is had in Craven County, North Carolina. 11,000 Union soldiers are supported by fourteen gunboats against a Confederate Army showcasing 4,000 troops and single cavalry regiment.

**March 23**...The First Battle of Kernstown (Winchester, Virginia).

**March 26**...The Battle of Glorietta Pass is fought between 1,300 Union troops and 1,100 Confederates.

### 1863

**March 5**...In a two-day clash of cavalry forces at Thompson's Station, Tennessee, Confederate forces are victorious.

### 1864

**March 10, 1864**...The Red River Campaign begins. As part of an overall Union strategy to strike deep into various parts of the Confederacy, a combined force of army and navy commands under General Nathaniel Banks begins a campaign on the Red River in Louisiana.

### 1865

**March 11, 1865**...Gen. Sherman's Army occupies Fayetteville, North Carolina.

**March 16**...The Battle of Averasborough takes place in North Carolina.

**March 25, 1865**...Attack on Fort Stedman, Petersburg, Virginia. Touted as "Lee's last offensive", Confederate troops under General John B. Gordon attack and briefly capture the Union fort in the Petersburg siege lines in an attempt to thwart Union plans for a late March assault.



### MONITOR BATTLES C.S.S. VIRGINIA

history.com

On March 9, 1862, one of the most famous naval battles in American history occurs as two ironclads, the U.S.S. Monitor and the C.S.S. Virginia, fight to a draw off Hampton Roads, Virginia.

The C.S.S. Virginia was a 40-gun frigate launched in 1855. The vessel had an unusually low profile, rising from the water only 18 inches.

The battle between the Virginia and the Monitor began on March 9 and continued for four hours. The ships circled one another, jockeying for position as they fired their guns. The cannon balls simply deflected off the iron ships. In the early afternoon, the Virginia pulled back to Norfolk.



### THE BATTLE OF THOMPSON'S STATION

Thompsons-station.com

In a period of relative inactivity following the Battle of Stones River, a reinforced Union infantry brigade, under Col. John Coburn, left Franklin to reconnoiter south toward Columbia. On March 5, 1863 four miles from Spring Hill, Coburn attacked with his right wing, a Confederate force composed of two regiments; he was repelled. Then, Maj. Gen. Van Dorn seized the initiative. Brig. Gen. W.H. "Red" Jackson's dismounted 2nd Division made a frontal attack, while Brig. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest's division swept around Coburn's left flank, and into his rear. After three attempts, characterized by hard fighting, Jackson carried the Union hilltop position as Forrest captured Coburn's wagon train and blocked the road to Columbia in his rear. Out of ammunition and surrounded, Coburn surrendered. Union influence in Middle Tennessee subsided for a while. The Confederate veterans of Thompson's Station knew that they had just won a striking victory.

*"The Confederate soldiers who engaged in the struggle for constitutional liberty and the right of self-government were neither rebels nor traitors"*



## BATTLE OF AVERASBOROUGH NC

[civilwar.wikia.org](http://civilwar.wikia.org)



The Battle of Averasborough was fought March 15 & 16, 1865, in Harnett and Cumberland counties, North Carolina, as part of the Carolinas Campaign of the American Civil War and was a prelude to the climactic Battle of Bentonville, which began three days later.

Confederate Gen. Joseph E. Johnston sent Lt. Gen. William J. Hardee's corps to attack Union Gen. Henry Slocum's left wing while it was separated from the rest of Gen. Sherman's forces. On the morning of March 16, troops of the Union XX Corps under Maj. Gen. Alpheus S. Williams were driven back by a Confederate assault. When reinforcements arrived, the Union forces counterattacked and drove back two lines of Confederates, but were repulsed by a third line. By this time, units from Union Maj. Gen. Jefferson C. Davis's XIV Corps began to arrive on the field. Outnumbered and in danger of being flanked, Hardee's troops withdrew. The Confederates had not held up the Union Army as long as they had

hoped. Each side suffered just under 700 casualties; however, these were losses the Federals could afford while the Confederates could not.

## THE HISTORY OF GILMER

*Hettye Calloway 1926*



Transportation in Gilmer was crude, as everything else was. The ox wagon was the most common way of transportation, but there were also a few carriages in use by the well-to-do families. The streets were about a foot deep in white sand. There was no stock law and the hogs usually stayed under the business houses. As a consequence there were many fleas. It is laughingly said by old-timers that if you picked up a handful of sand half of it jumped away in fleas.

About the time Gilmer was incorporated (1852) there was one ordinance that said: "No man shall ride horseback on sidewalks of the city of Gilmer; if they do they shall be fined not less than \$5 or more than \$25." It was this ordinance that was first violated. There was a man who lived just on the outside of town that owned a large long-horned Texas steer by the name of Lamb. Old Lamb's horns were about six feet from tip to tip. This gentleman saddled old Lamb and came to town. After visiting the saloon and getting drunk, he mounted Lamb and rode up and down every sidewalk of the small city and none dared molest or make him afraid.

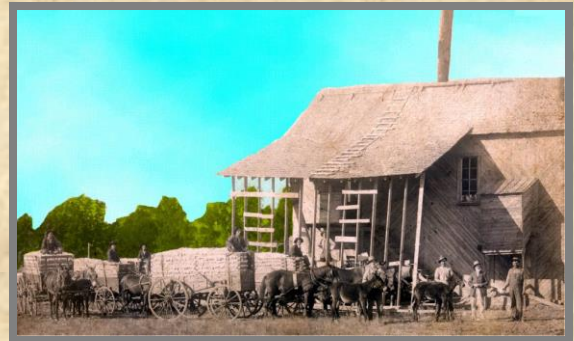


### DAVIS HOME GILMER, TEXAS

<http://txgenwebcounties.org>

This house in Gilmer was built by Horace Vernon Davis, Mayor of Gilmer for 3 or 4 terms, at the intersection of Butler and Trinity Streets. It was sold to his brother, Henry Lee Davis, owner of Davis Dry Goods, the Maberry Grocery, and Gilmer Wholesale Grocery for 70 yrs. Henry Lee and Violet Davis lived in this house when their two sons were born, i.e.: Richard b.1924 and Thomas b. 1929. Housing in the area was so scarce during the Kilgore oil boom that part of the house was renovated to accommodate boarders working in Kilgore.

*Why should it matter to us today that “the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed by the government? Nothing is more natural than securing oneself from harm. Whether that danger be a physical assault or oppression by a stronger force such as the government, owning and knowing how to use a firearm is a sound means of ensuring one’s well-being. The Founders recognized this as a fundamental right and made certain they guaranteed it to posterity.*



### ROSEWOOD COTTON GIN

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

Rosewood is on State Highway 154 eight miles west of Gilmer in western Upshur County. It was first settled in the late 1880s and was originally known as Double Springs. Its name was changed to Essex in 1891 when a post office was opened. In 1902 the name was changed again, to Rosewood. When the Marshall and East Texas Railways were built through the area around 1909, Rosewood became a station. In the years just before World War I the town was an important shipping point and commercial center for farmers and ranchers in western Upshur County. By 1914 Rosewood had Baptist and Methodist churches, two sawmills, four general stores, a bank, and an estimated population of 500. After the railroad went out of business in the early 1920s, the town declined. By 1925 its population had fallen to 255. After World War II its school was consolidated with the Harmony school district, and by the mid-1960s all that remained of the town was two churches, a cemetery, and a few widely scattered houses. In 1990 Rosewood was a dispersed rural community with an estimated population of 100.





## CONFEDERATE REUNION GROUNDS MEXIA, TEXAS



Confederate Reunion Grounds State Historic Site in one of 21 historic sites operated by the Texas Historical Commission. The site tells the story of Civil War Confederate veterans in Texas at place where they gathered from 1889 to 1946. These veterans perpetuated memories of fallen comrades, aided disabled survivors and widows and orphans of deceased soldiers, and preserved the fraternity that grew out of the war.

In September 1983, the Confederate Reunion Grounds were donated to the state of Texas.

Today, visitors to Confederate Reunion Grounds experience a combination of cultural and natural heritage. The site includes three primary stories for preservation including the pre-history, post-Civil War Reunion Movement, and early Texas oil boom. Visitors have the opportunity to experience first-hand a Civil War-era cannon with documented history for Confederate action, an 1893 Dance Pavilion listed on the National Register, and ruins of structures from the Mexia Oil Boom.



## CONFEDERATE MONUMENTS TAKEN DOWN IN 2020

*By: Kaylee Greenlee*

At least 160 Confederate symbols including statues were removed from public spaces in 2020, according to the Southern Poverty Law Center.

Of the symbols removed 94 were Confederate monuments, including a statue of Confederate General Robert E. Lee that was removed from the U.S. Capitol building after 111 years, according to Southern Poverty Law Center data. The left-leaning SPLC keeps track of around 2,100 public parks, buildings and statues devoted to the Confederacy through a database called "Whose Heritage?"

Protesters also pulled down statues of former Presidents Abraham Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt during an "Indigenous Peoples Day of Rage" demonstration in Portland, Oregon, the Oregonian reported. Protesters threw red paint and spray painted the statues before using chains to pull them from their bases.

*"Public monuments belong to all Americans and are not to be torn down by rampaging mobs and power hungry bureaucrats."*

## AMERICAN CULTURAL VALUES

*vintageamericanways.com*

The system of basic American values emerged in the late 1700s and began to define the American character in a nation that has consisted of people from many different countries. Historically, the United States has been viewed as “the land of opportunity.”

The earliest settlers came to the North American continent to establish colonies that were free from the controls that existed in European societies. They wanted to escape the controls placed on many aspects of their lives by kings and governments, priests and churches, noblemen and aristocrats. The historic decisions made by those first settlers have had a profound effect on the shaping of the American character. The United States came to be associated with the concept of individual freedom. By freedom, Americans mean the desire and the right of all individuals to control their own destiny without outside interference from the government.

There is a cost for this benefit of individual freedom: self-reliance. Individuals must learn to rely on themselves or risk losing freedom. They must take responsibility for themselves. Most Americans believe that they must be self-reliant in order to keep their freedom. If they rely too much on the support of their families or the government or any organization, they may lose some of their freedom to do what they want.

Most Americans still believe in the value of hard work. Most believe that people should hold jobs and not live off welfare payments from the government.

For the most part, the American Dream has traditionally meant that by working hard, parents can enable their children to have a better life when they grow up. The ideal of upward mobility still exists in America. Most Americans still believe in ideals and are strongly affected by them in their everyday lives.



## THINGS A TRUE SOUTHERNER KNOWS

- \*The difference between a hissie fit and a conniption.
- \*Pretty much how many fish make up a mess.
- \*That when somebody’s “fixin” to do something, it won’t be long.
- \*How good a cold grape Nehi and cheese crackers are at a country store.
- \*Never to assume that the other car with the flashing turn signal is actually going to make a turn.
- \*A belt serves a greater purpose than holding Daddy’s pants up.
- \*Rocking chairs and swings are guaranteed stress relievers.

*Don’t ridicule our Southern manners. We say sir and ma’am. We hold doors open for others. We offer our seats to old folks because such things are expected of civilized people.*



Upcoming Events may be found on the Calendar at:

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



In honor and in loving memory of our Confederate Ancestors who sacrificed and gave their all to protect home, our beloved Southland, and a way of life.

May the heroic deeds of these men be studied and understood, never to be lost or forgotten. Protecting and defending their memory to future generations. We are proud descendants of these brave and valiant soldiers for those who chose Upshur County, Texas as their home and final resting place - we will forever remember.

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, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander/Editor [david.palmer@upshurpatriots.org](mailto:david.palmer@upshurpatriots.org)



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.

