



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

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Meetings are held the 1st Tuesday
of each month at 7 PM in the
Historic Upshur Museum
www.upshurpatriots.org

APRIL 2023

**SINKING CONFEDERATE
TIES**

NY Post March 11, 2023



The US Navy is renaming two of its vessels as part of ongoing efforts to cut ties with Confederate history.

The former USNS Maury, an oceanographic survey ship, has been re-named in honor of Marie Tharp, an oceanographer who first mapped the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean. It was previously named after former Navy Commander Matthew Fontaine Maury the founder of modern oceanography. Maury refused to fight against his home state of Virginia and resigned during the Civil War to join the Confederate Army.

Also renamed is the USS Chancellorsville to the USS Robert Smalls, honoring an enslaved sailor for the Confederates during the Civil War. It was originally named after The Battle of Chancellorsville.

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THE GUARDIAN



Early Spring is the best time of the year to spruce up the grave sites of your loved ones. A little work this year can keep a memorial site looking great for months to come.

Before starting any maintenance or decorating, be sure to check with cemetery about their rules. Some have very restrictive rules that could end up wasting your time and money if you don't abide by them. Pick up any debris around the grave and even give the grass a good raking. If there are bare spots in the grass, now's a great time to spread some seed to fill them in.

The next thing is to clean the headstone. The most effective and safest way to clean a headstone is to use D/2 Biological Solution. D/2 is tested and used by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the National Park Service.

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



**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



Fort Sumter South Carolina
Has origins that date back to the War of 1812.

April 12, 1861, the Battle of Fort Sumter begins the American Civil War

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.



Confederate History Month in April is a month annually designated by seven state governments in the Southern United States for the purpose of recognizing and honoring the history of the Confederate States of America.



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, La., April 25, 1906





EASTER

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16

Easter this year is celebrated on April 9th. Easter, also called Resurrection Sunday, is one of the most important days in the Christian faith commemorating the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Our Lord always told his disciples that he would rise. They were astonished to hear that he would die at all: they could not think it possible that he could die by the terrible death which he often hinted at.

Easter has a lot to give the Christian man and woman. The resurrection of Jesus is the very heart and soul of the Gospel. In simple terms, the gospel is the death, burial and resurrection of Christ.

Three times in Romans, the apostle Paul refers to the great results of Easter. He says that they are:

1. Easter confirmed Christ’s identity.
2. Easter cancelled sin’s penalty.
3. Because of Easter, we can celebrate eternal life.

Because of Easter, we can receive a new spiritual life too; we can be born again. Easter gives us everything our hearts and minds need. Confirmation of Christ’s identity, cancellation of sin’s penalty, and celebration of life eternally. All of it is yours for the taking, for the believing, for the accepting.



HISTORICAL EVENTS IN APRIL

1861

April 12 - Confederate forces fire upon Fort Sumter, South Carolina. The Civil War formally begins.

1862

April 6-7 - The Battle of Shiloh (Pittsburg Landing), the first major battle in



Tennessee. Confederate General Albert Sidney Johnston, a veteran of the Texas War of Independence and the War with Mexico, is killed on the first day of fighting. The Federal victory further secures the career of US General Ulysses S. Grant.

April 24-25 - A Federal fleet of gunships under Admiral David Farragut passes Confederate forts guarding the mouth of the Mississippi River. On April 25, the fleet arrived at New Orleans where they demanded the surrender of the city.

1863

April 30-May 6 - Battle of Chancellorsville, Virginia. US General Joseph Hooker's plan to flank Lee falls apart and Union forces

retreat. Lee's victory at Chancellorsville is marred by high casualties, including the mortal wounding of "Stonewall" Jackson.

1864

April 8 - Battle of Sabine Crossroads or Mansfield, Louisiana, the first major battle of the Red River Campaign in Louisiana.

April 9 - Battle of Pleasant Hill, Louisiana. The United States Army under Banks defeats the attempt by Confederate forces



under General Richard Taylor to drive them out of Louisiana. The result of the campaign would be less than desired as it drew to a

close in the first week of May with Confederates still in control of most of the state.

April 12 - Capture of Fort Pillow, Tennessee.

After a rapid raid through central and western Tennessee, Confederate cavalry under Nathan Bedford Forrest attacked and overwhelmed the Federal garrison at Fort Pillow, located on the Mississippi River.

1865

April 1 - The Battle of Five Forks, Virginia. The Confederate defeat at Five Forks initiates General Lee's decision to abandon the Petersburg-Richmond siege lines.

April 2 - The Fall of Petersburg and Richmond. General Lee abandons both cities and moves his army west in hopes of joining Confederate forces under General Johnston in North Carolina.

April 3 - US troops occupy Richmond and Petersburg, Virginia.

April 6 - The Battle of Sailor's Creek,

Virginia. A portion of Lee's Army, almost one-third of it, is cornered along the banks of Sailor's (or "Saylor's") Creek.

April 9 - Battle of Appomattox Court House and Surrender, Appomattox Court House, Virginia. After an early morning attempt to break through Federal forces blocking the route west to Danville, Virginia, Lee seeks an audience with General Grant to discuss terms. That afternoon in the parlor of Wilmer McLean, Lee signs the document of surrender.

April 14 - President Abraham Lincoln is assassinated by actor John Wilkes Booth at Ford's Theater in Washington, DC. On the same day, Fort Sumter, South Carolina is re-occupied by US troops.



SHILOH

wikipedia

The Battle of Shiloh (Battle of Pittsburg Landing) was fought on April 6–7, 1862, in the American Civil War. The fighting took place in southwestern Tennessee, which was part of the war's Western Theater. The battlefield is located between a church named Shiloh and Pittsburg Landing, which is on the Tennessee River. Two Union armies combined to defeat the Confederate Army of Mississippi. Major General Ulysses S. Grant was the Union commander, while General Albert Sidney Johnston was the Confederate commander.



MANSFIELD SABINE CROSSROADS

battlefields.org

DeSoto Parish, La. Apr. 8, 1864

The Red River Campaign of 1864 was one of U.S. General-in-Chief Ulysses S. Grant's initiatives to apply simultaneous pressure on Confederate armies along five separate fronts from Louisiana to Virginia. In addition to defeating the defending Confederate army, the campaign sought to confiscate cotton stores from plantations along the river and to give support to pro-Union governments in Louisiana. By early April, Maj. Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks' Union army was about 150 miles up the Red River threatening Shreveport. Confederate Maj.



Gen. Richard Taylor sought to strike a blow at the Federals and slow their advance. He established a defensive position just below Mansfield, near Sabine Crossroads, an important road junction. On April 8th, Banks's men approached, driving Confederate cavalry before them. For the rest of the morning, the Federals probed the Rebel lines. In late afternoon, Taylor, though outnumbered, decided to attack. His men made a determined assault on both flanks, rolling up one and then another of Banks's divisions. Finally, about three

miles from the original contact, a third Union division met Taylor's attack at 6:00 pm and halted it after more than an hour's fighting. That night, Taylor unsuccessfully attempted to turn Banks's right flank. Banks withdrew but met Taylor again on April 9th at Pleasant Hill. Mansfield was the decisive battle of the Red River Campaign, influencing Banks to retreat southward toward Alexandria.



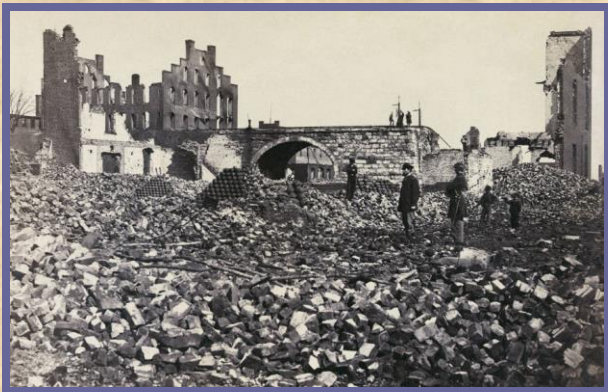
BATTLE OF FIVE FORKS

battlefields.org

In the spring of 1865, Lt. General Ulysses S. Grant had an opportunity to force Confederate General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia out of its entrenchments at Petersburg, Virginia, by threatening its last supply line, the South Side Railroad. Grant ordered Maj. General Philip Sheridan and his cavalry to advance on the railroad by way of an important road junction known as Five Forks. Lee countered this move by ordering Maj. General George Pickett with his infantry division and cavalry under Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, Thomas Munford, W.H.F. "Rooney" Lee, and Thomas Rosser to hold the vital crossroads "at all hazards."

After briefly stalling the Union advance at Dinwiddie Court House on March 31, Pickett withdrew his command to Five Forks and fortified his position. The next day, while Sheridan's cavalry pinned the Confederates in position, the V Corps assaulted the Confederate left flank and rear, turning their position.

The fighting ended after the Union troops successfully overwhelmed both flanks of the southern line, which was centered on the crossroads that gave the battle its name. Sheridan's losses numbered around 800 men, while Pickett lost 3,000, most of whom were captured in the fight. Lee's last major supply route had been broken.

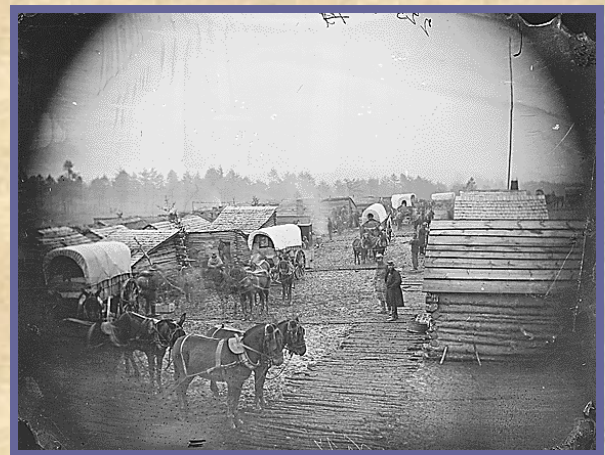


Richmond Virginia April 1865

"I believe there are more instances of the abridgement of freedom of the people by gradual and silent encroachments by those in power than by violent and sudden usurpations." **James Madison**



Pontoon Bridge on the Rappahannock River
May 1863



Winter Camp

"A Constitution of Government once changed from Freedom, can never be restored. Liberty, once lost, is lost forever."
John Adams

"I believe that banking institutions are more dangerous to our liberties than standing armies." **Thomas Jefferson**



LAFAYETTE BAPTIST CHURCH & CEMETERY

texasescapes.com

At the intersection of FMs 593 & 2796 in Upshur County, LaFayette dates from the late 1850s. Unlike numerous towns and cities named after the Marquis de La Fayette, this community was named to honor LaFayette Locke, the son of an early settler (M.F. Locke).

The community was granted a post office as early as 1858. In the mid-1880s, LaFayette had a school, three churches and multiple cotton gins and gristmills although there were only 30 residents.

The community enjoyed a (brief) mining boom (iron ore) in the early 1890s. By the middle of that decade, the population swelled to 400 residents.

Amenities acquired during the boom included a newspaper, Masonic lodge and several saloons.

After 1900 LaFayette experienced a sharp population decline. By 1914, the population had fallen to 250 and the community was hard-hit by the Great Depression. The 1940 Census counted just eighty residents.

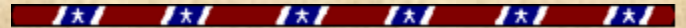
It hit bottom in 1958 with a population of 60. Although the population has increased back to 80; the town has officially been designated a "dispersed rural community."



UPSHUR COUNTY BELL

The bell on the Courthouse lawn was rung every day for many years in the early 1900's

by W.A. Roberts to signal six o'clock P.M. Closing time for all businesses; to call the firemen and citizens together when needed, and for all momentous occasions, including end of World War I.



FROM THE TEXAS OBSERVER

LUFKIN After hearing glass shatter in the early hours of the morning, a terrified homeowner took shelter in a closet and called 911 to report a break-in. Police arrived to find that the intruder was a befuddled white-tailed deer, the Lufkin Daily News reports. "We've got the house surrounded. Come on out!" orders an officer, before entering and shouting, "It's a deer, it's a deer! Stand down." The doe scampered wildly across the living room before officers eventually shooed it out the front door with a folding chair.

ATASCOCITA A man tested the limits of Petco's "all leashed pets allowed" policy by walking his 1,600-pound steer into the

store. A Facebook video shows Shelly Lumpkin leading Oliver, a 14-year-old Ankole-Watusi, through the sliding doors as the steer carefully tilts his 9-foot horns to fit. Inside, shoppers and employees lined up to pet him and snap photos. Petco associate Chrystal Armour told the Houston Chronicle that Lumpkin cleared the visit with her ahead of time. "We love all of our guests' animals and the wonderful bond they share," Armour said.

LIVINGSTON Mayor Judy B. Cochran bagged a 12-foot alligator—the same creature, she believes, that ate her miniature horse a few years ago. "Typically the gators don't bother us, but we've been looking for this one," Cochran told the Houston Chronicle. Cochran, who recently became a great-grandmother, used a seasoned raccoon to attract the 580-pound animal to her pond, where she shot it. She plans to mount its tail in her office and make several pairs of boots from its hide.

Texans

Texans don't say their dogs are skittish... just that they "wouldn't bite a biscuit."

Texans don't call someone pretentious or foolish... they say he's "all hat and no cattle."

Texans don't say they're experienced or qualified... they say "this ain't my first rodeo."

Texans wouldn't call someone unsophisticated... they would say he just "fell off the turnip truck."



FREEDOMS AND RIGHTS

In 1789 Virginian James Madison submitted twelve amendments to Congress. His intention was to answer the criticisms of the Anti-Federalists. The states ratified all but two of them — one to authorize the enlargement of the House of Representatives and one to prevent members of the House from raising their own salaries until after an election had taken place. The remaining ten amendments, known as the Bill of Rights, were ratified in 1791.

They put limits on the national government's right to control specific civil liberties and rights, many of which were already protected by some of the state constitutions. Liberties protected included freedom of speech, press, religion, and assembly (First Amendment) The Bill of Rights also provided safeguards for those accused of crimes. Two amendments — the right to bear arms (Second Amendment) and the right to refuse to have soldiers quartered in your home (Third Amendment) were clearly reactions to British rule. The Anti-Federalists were pleased by the addition of the Tenth Amendment which declared that all powers not expressly granted to Congress were reserved for the states.

Over the years, the Bill of Rights has become an important core of American values. The compromise that created the Bill of Rights also defined what Americans would come to cherish above almost all else. Together with the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, the Bill of Rights helps to define the American political system and the government's relationship to its citizens.



ammo.com



Christopher Gadsden was the designer of the flag shown above called the "Gadsden Flag." Both a soldier and a statesman, Gadsden was a founding member of South Carolina's Sons of Liberty chapter. He served as a delegate to both the First and Second Continental Congresses. He left the Continental Congress in 1776 to serve as commander of the 1st South Carolina Regiment of the Continental Army.

His Flag was first flown by Commodore Esek Hopkins, and the flag was unfurled on the main mast of Hopkins' flagship, USS *Alfred*, on December 20, 1775. In the same month, an anonymous letter was sent to the Pennsylvania Journal, probably written by

Benjamin Franklin. This letter suggested, "As I know it is the custom to have some device on the arms of every country, I supposed this may have been intended for the arms of America."

Anonymous Franklin's reasons for such were as follows:

- The rattlesnake is only found in North America.
- The creature has "sharp eyes" and "may therefore be esteemed an emblem of vigilance."
- The snake isn't known for unprovoked attacks. However, once it does attack, it doesn't stop until it wins.
- What's more, even before attacking, the rattlesnake gives ample warning in the form of its rattle.
- Franklin claimed in the letter that the snake's tail had 13 rattles (thirteen colonies), none of which would work independently of one another.

Over 250 years later the Gadsden Flag resonates because of its stark imagery and simple message. "Don't Tread On Me" with a rattlesnake poised to attack says all that needs to be said. It is not an aggressive posture, but rather a defensive one. It says to anyone who would tread on the liberties of free people to think twice. While free people are peaceful, their patience is not endless.

The flag has been described as the "most popular symbol of the American revolution." Its design proclaims an assertive warning of vigilance and willingness to act in defense against coercion.



REPARATIONS IN 2023

By: Jennifer Ludden March 27, 2023

Local reparations programs in about a dozen cities and the state of California have renewed hopes for an eventual national policy to compensate for slavery. But after decades of lobbying and three years of a national reckoning over race, Americans overall remain strongly opposed to the idea. Two-thirds of Americans say they're against cash payments to the descendants of slaves. A plurality of Americans, say they "don't believe the descendants of slaves deserve reparations."

The other most common reasons opponents cite is that it's "impossible to place a monetary value on the impact of slavery" and "African Americans are treated equally in society today."

Supporters of reparations for Black Americans consider a national program crucial. Explicitly racist federal policies were key in creating the wealth gap, and only the federal government could come anywhere close to compensating for harms.

Upcoming Events may be found on the Calendar at: 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



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

