



PATRIOT'S PERIODICAL

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

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MAY 2022

**MEETINGS ARE
HELD THE 1ST
TUESDAY OF EACH
MONTH 7 PM AT THE
HISTORIC UPSHUR
MUSEUM**

www.upshurpatriots.org



THE SOUTH WILL SURVIVE

By: Luke Brown

The South has survived and will continue to survive. History shows us this. The beauty of the land of Dixie and its history of fighting for independence and self-governance make it the true heart of America that began with our nation's founding and continues today. Southerners should be respected for their honorable lives and strong defense of conservatism, freedom, and independence.

The South's history is the most colorful and interesting of our nation. It certainly contains many dark chapters. The War Between the States was the largest chapter of the horrors and destruction the South has had to survive in our nation's history.

Despite all of the intrusions and invasions, the South must remain positive and strong.



**Texas Division
Sons of Confederate Veterans
125th Annual Reunion Sheraton McKinney
Hotel June 3 -5**

The Sheraton McKinney Hotel is the official hotel of the 2022 Texas Division Reunion. The hotel is located at 1900 Gateway Boulevard, McKinney TX 75050.

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PATRIOTS CAMP #2109

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*"Evil Triumphs When Good Men do
Nothing" ...Thomas Jefferson*

*"Liberty must at all hazards be supported.
We have a right to it, derived from our
Maker" ...John Adams*



THE GUARDIAN

Changing of the Guard

By: E. Pricer

The time has come for the changing of the guard. As many of you know, the Guardian Program began in South Carolina as a way to protect and honor the final resting places of Confederate Soldiers and Sailors. It was later enacted at the National level and then other Divisions raised up the mantle to further this worthwhile effort in honoring our ancestors.

The Texas Division authorized the Guardian Program in 2012 and Division Commander Granville Block appointed Phil Davis as the Division Chairman to enact, promote and manage the program. The program's first compatriots to take the pledge and vow to honor and protect the final resting of our Confederate ancestors were from East Texas. Under the guidance of Chairman Davis, the program spread throughout the state. Although not directly under the guidance of the program, many Camps within the Division now routinely repair monuments, clean gravesites, and visit and place flags to fulfill the promise to protect and honor these deserving heroes.

When a member declared their intent to watch over the final resting place of a Confederate ancestor, they agreed to care for, monitor and visit that hallowed ground until they were no longer able to do so. Chairman Davis has fulfilled this promise both with managing the program and caring

for graves until March of this year. Due to his failing eyesight, he has been forced to pass the baton of the Chairmanship to another trustworthy, energetic and equally enthusiastic Compatriot that is ready to fight for the protection and honor of our ancestors. At the March DEC meeting in Waco, Chairman Davis stepped down and 5th Brigade Commander Bill Elliot was appointed the new Guardian program Division Chairman. Phil has pledged his complete support and will assist in any way possible during and after the transition.

The Division Guardian Program has been in great hands since its inception and will continue to be under Chairman Elliot's guidance and management.

If you're not a Guardian, why not?

Contact Guardian Program Chairman Bill Elliot for information at: etaia@att.net



WHY I HAVE A CONFEDERATE FLAG

By Tom Geoghegan

My dad is a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and I have some other family in it and the UDC as well. We have three Confederate Veterans we know by name as ancestors. When I left for college, my dad got me a Confederate battle flag from an SCV meet. It went up in my dorm in college and no one was bothered by it.

When an invading army invades, regardless of how Nobel the statesmen claim their cause is they do what all armies have always done: rape and pillage. My Ancestors didn't fight to help their rich neighbors keep slaves; they fought to keep their livelihood and family from being ruined.

I still have my flag. It represents those who battled. It represents their fight, and Confederate Soldiers had many, many reasons to fight that war. The Battle flag represents the bravery, honor, courage, fear, hope, and doubt of the common soldier – like those in my family – who fought for more personal reasons. That Flag now hangs in my home bothering no one.

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	51
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
Johnathan Tyson	Full	1
Gregg Gipe	GPT	3
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.

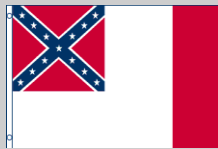


SALUTE TO THE CONFEDERATE FLAG:

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



Gilmer Square in the 1930's



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”*



WHEN YOU DON'T FEEL LIKE IT

christianperspective.net

We all struggle at times with spiritual discouragement and lethargy. Some days our circumstances threaten to overwhelm us, and we struggle just to pray. Many times we just don't feel like doing the things we know we should. For one reason or another, God sometimes seems far off and unreachable.

Recalling God's faithfulness and control over everything that touches us gives us strength to walk with God even when we feel like giving up in despair. After all, our feelings and circumstances have not changed God. He is perfectly capable of sustaining us if we will only let Him. We simply need to choose to *delight* in and *diligently consider* God's precepts (His principles and character) despite how we feel. Choosing to delight in God might not be easy. It might even involve hard work. But only God can revive and save our soul from spiritual lethargy.

Next time you feel spiritually drained or inadequate; remember that you have a choice. You can wrap yourself up in excuses and self-pity, or you can choose to draw your strength from an unchanging God.



HISTORICAL DATES IN MAY

1861

May 9-Military assets of Texas are officially handed over to the Texas Rangers by U.S. General David Twiggs.

May 13-Britain declares herself neutral in the American conflict and fails to officially recognize the Confederate States of America.

May 21-Richmond, Virginia becomes the official national capital of the Confederacy of the United States.

1862

May 1-The Union capture of New Orleans is complete.

May 4-This date marks the official start of the Shenandoah Valley Campaign directed by Stonewall Jackson.

May 5-The Battle of Williamsburg occurs with inconclusive results for both sides. General McClellan leads Union forces against General Johnston and Longstreet. Casualties total 2,283 for the North and 1,682 for the South.

May 8-On this date the Battle of McDowell occurs - a one-day engagement pitting 6,500 Federals against 6,000 Confederates. Stonewall Jackson leads the latter and the battle goes down as a Confederate victory.

May 10-A naval engagement is fought four miles upriver from Fort Pillow in Tennessee with the Confederates claiming the victory.

May 12-Union forces occupy Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

May 15-Confederate guns at Drewry's Bluff turn back the James River Flotilla approaching Richmond.

May 23-On this date, General Jackson engages Union forces in the Battle of Front Royal. The engagement ends as a Confederate victory with 773 Union elements killed to just 36 Confederates.

May 31-The Battle of Seven Pines (Battle of Fair Oaks) begins in Henrico County, Virginia.

1863

May 6-The Battle of Chancellorsville is over as a Confederate victory. However, the Confederate Army is dealt a blow when it is revealed that Stonewall Jackson is mortally wounded.

1864

May 1-After a fall from the balcony of the Confederate White House, President Jefferson Davis' son Joe dies of his injuries. He was five years old.

May 5-The Battle of the Wilderness takes place across Spotsylvania and Orange counties in Virginia. Generals Ulysses Grant and George Meade face-off against Robert E. Lee.

May 8-The Battle of Spotsylvania Court House begins. Union Generals Grant and Meade square off, once again, against Confederate General Robert E. Lee.

May 12-Confederate General J.E.B. Stuart, aged 31, dies of wounds suffered at the Battle of Yellow Tavern the day before.

May 15-The Battle of Fort Darling - or Battle of Drewry's Bluff - is had pitting five Union warships against an artillery-laden Confederate fort in Chesterfield County, Virginia. It is a Confederate victory for General Beauregard. Union General Benjamin Butler is handed the defeat.

May 20-The Battle of Ware Bottom Church sees Confederate General Beauregard victorious over Union General Benjamin Butler. The fighting takes place in Chesterfield County, Virginia.

May 31-The Battle of Cold Harbor begins as part of the Overland Campaign.

1865

May 2-Acting President Andrew Johnson places a bounty of \$100,000 on the head of Confederate President Jefferson Davis.

May 4-While attempting to escape, Confederate President Jefferson Davis is taken prisoner by Northern forces near Irwinsville, Georgia.

May 10-President Andrew Johnson formally proclaims the end to the years-long war.

May 12-The last battle of the Civil War is fought at Palmetto Ranch near Brownsville (Texas). The Battle of Palmetto Ranch spans two days and ends in a Confederate victory.

May 19-The large Confederate prison of war camp at Tyler, Texas - Camp Ford - is officially closed.

May 26-The last major Confederate force is surrendered to authorities of the North in Galveston, Texas.



wikipedia.org

BRITAIN
DECLARES
HERSELF
NEUTRAL

MAY 13, 1861

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland remained officially neutral throughout the American Civil War (1861–1865). It legally recognized the belligerent

status of the Confederate States of America (CSA) but never recognized it as a nation and neither signed a treaty with it nor ever exchanged ambassadors. Over 90 percent of Confederate trade with Britain ended, causing a severe shortage of cotton by 1862. Private British blockade runners sent munitions and luxuries to Confederate ports in return for cotton and tobacco. In Manchester, the massive reduction of available American cotton caused an economic disaster referred to as the Lancashire Cotton Famine. Despite the high unemployment, some Manchester cotton workers refused out of principle to process any cotton from America, leading to direct praise from President Lincoln, whose statue in Manchester bears a plaque which quotes his appreciation for the textile workers in "helping abolish slavery". Top British officials debated offering to mediate in the first 18 months, which the Confederacy wanted but the United States strongly rejected.



BATTLE OF MCDOWELL

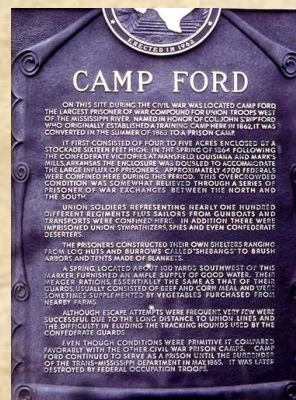
wikipedia.org

The Battle of McDowell, also known as the Battle of Sitlington's Hill, was fought on May 8, 1862, near McDowell, Virginia, as part of Confederate Major General Stonewall

Jackson's 1862 Shenandoah Valley campaign during the American Civil War. After suffering a tactical defeat at the First Battle of Kernstown, Jackson withdrew to the southern Shenandoah Valley. Union forces commanded by Brigadier Generals Robert Milroy and Robert C. Schenck were advancing from what is now West Virginia towards the Shenandoah Valley. After being reinforced by troops commanded by Brigadier General Edward Johnson, Jackson advanced towards Milroy and Schenck's encampment at McDowell. Jackson quickly took the prominent heights of Sitlington's Hill, and Union attempts to recapture the hill failed. The Union forces retreated that night, and Jackson pursued, only to return to McDowell on 13 May. After McDowell, Jackson defeated Union forces at several other battles during his Valley campaign.

CAMP FORD CLOSED

gwrra-tx.org



MAY 19, 1865

Camp Ford was the largest Confederate Prisoner of War Camp west of the Mississippi River during the American Civil War. Camp Ford had not

always been a prison. It was established early in the war as a training facility, a muster point for conscripts from all over northeastern Texas to be inducted into the Confederate army. With a built-in garrison, early in 1863 Camp Ford was a convenient stop-over for occasional small groups of Federal prisoners, as they made their way

to the exchange depot on the Red River at Shreveport, Louisiana. However, in July 1863 the first permanent prisoners arrived at the camp. At its peak in July 1864, over 5,300 prisoners were detained there.



At our April meeting Commander Gregg Gipe, on behalf of the Upshur Co. Patriots presented a \$500.00 Scholarship check to Baily Loyd. Baily is the daughter of past Commander Chris Loyd and the Granddaughter of Adjutant Don Loyd.



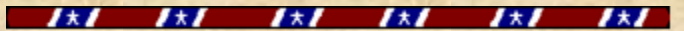
Our April Program was given by Keith Wells on metal detecting for artifacts. Keith displayed some items that he has found over the years at various battlefields.



New Members James L. Watson (L) and Chris Brown (R) were sworn in at our April meeting by Commander Gregg Gipe.



Compatriots Phil Davis, George Linton and Eddie Pricer place a marker on a gravesite at the Oak Hill Cemetery. The site is one of Phil's Guardian Graves.



Second Amendment

*Defending my right
to not be a victim
since 1791*



MAKING A MOVE AGAINST THE SECOND AMENDMENT

By: Hailey Sanibel/ John Longenecker

'No amendment is absolute'...President Joe Biden, April 2022

Imagine not having firearms in the South when the Northern Army invaded. The Second Amendment could not be clearer: The right to bear arms shall not be infringed. Unlike today's contemporary political morons, the sagacious and well-read Founders were astutely aware of the evil lurking within mankind and the tyrannical impulses to assert one's domain over others. Limited government – limiting government ability to assert itself – was of utmost importance in keeping people free and human nature in check.

The Second Amendment protects all our other rights. The Second Amendment reflects the overall health of the nation, because it is either respected for its language of shall not be infringed, or it is not. The Second Amendment is absolute, because it must be. It is not open to debate, and just because it is debated doesn't change the truth of the framing-era original intent. The absoluteness of the Second Amendment can and does serve freedom and justice for all. The 2A was written to be absolute by the Founders who experienced precisely what we are experiencing today and every generation.

continued north to Indian settlements in Oklahoma and Arkansas. Serving as a travel and trading route for East Texas Indians, the trail also enabled the migration of many settlers into Texas.



CHEROKEE TRACE

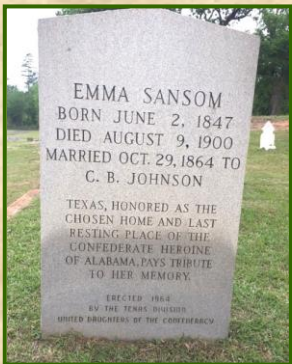
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The Cherokee Trace was a historic trail that traversed East and Northeast Texas. The Cherokee Indians are credited with blazing this route about 1821. According to folklore, the Indians dragged buffalo skins behind their horses to flatten the tall grass and then cleared the path of brush and logs. They charted a road that encountered the best camping places, river fords, and springs. They also planted honeysuckle and rose bushes along the route. The trail ran from the vicinity of Nacogdoches north through Northeast Texas including present-day Gregg, Upshur, and Camp counties. The road then crossed Big Cypress Creek into Titus County near the historic location of Fort Sherman and

On Saturday April 30th the Upshur Co. Patriots hosted an event of the SCV Mechanized Cavalry at the Little Mound Cemetery and Community Center. Lunch was served and the gravesite of Emma Samson was honored.





On the morning of May 2, 1863, Union Colonel Abel D. Streight and 1700 Union Troops passed the Samson farm and crossed Black Creek in Alabama ahead of Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest. After crossing

the Union troops burned the bridge. Unable to use the bridge to cross the swollen creek, Confederate General Forrest rode to a nearby home to find someone knowledgeable about the local terrain and came upon 16-year-old Emma Sansom.



Gen. Forrest announced "ladies, do not be alarmed I am General Forrest and we will protect you from harm." He inquired about

a path to another crossing. Sansom told him about a crossing above the bridge site and that she would show him the way.



Forrest told her to get on his horse with him. Sansom guided Forrest to the ford, crossed it, and caught up with the Union forces. While

escorting the general, Sansom faced enemy fire.

Sansom risked possible retribution for herself and her family from the Union soldiers had they escaped capture. That potential sacrifice made Sansom an enduring heroine of the Confederacy for generations.

In October 1864 Sansom married farmer Christopher B. Johnson. Around 1868, they moved to Upshur County, Texas, and the remainder of Sansom's life was spent primarily rearing the couple's seven children and running her household.

Sansom passed away on August 9, 1900, and was buried in Little Mound Cemetery in Upshur County.

Thank You to everyone assisting in this event: Bill Starnes, Hadden Starnes, Gregg Gipe, Eddie Pricer, Phil Davis, Don Loyd, Randy Yauch, James Lock, Jerry & Donna Akin, Sam Mercer, David Palmer and Dee Dee Estis.

Special thanks to the Little Mound Church and Activity Center.

SOME RULES OF LIFE

- *Avoid negative people.
- *I love deadlines. I especially like the whooshing sound they make as they go flying by.
- *I can only please one person each day. Today is not your day. Tomorrow is not looking good either.
- *Tell me what you need, and I'll tell you how to get along without it.
- *Accept that some days you are the pigeon and some days the statue.
- *Never argue with an idiot. They drag you down to their level, then beat you with experience.
- *Leave everything a little better than you found it.



1950's Gilmer



Upshur County Confederate Veterans

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.

