



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

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Next Meeting July 11 at 7 PM  
at the Historic Upshur Museum  
[www.upshurpatriots.org](http://www.upshurpatriots.org)

**JULY 2023**



As we move into the Month of July we commemorate the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

The American Revolution was an ideological and political revolution that occurred in British America between 1765 and 1783. The colonies secured their independence from the British Crown and established the United States as the first nation-state founded on Enlightenment principles of constitutionalism.

The written declaration stated that the American colonies were tired of being ruled by Great Britain and they wanted to

become their own country. The Colonists had to pay taxes on items such as tea and allow British soldiers to stay in their homes, hence the 3<sup>rd</sup> Amendment *"no Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law."* The colonists had to follow these laws but couldn't do anything to change them. Other factors of oppression by the British were to capture colonial leaders Sam Adams and John Hancock, protecting British colonial officials who were charged with capital offenses from being tried in Massachusetts.

Gathered at Independence Hall in Philadelphia, the Second Continental Congress declared King George III a tyrant who trampled the colonists' rights as Englishmen. On July 2, 1776, the Congress passed the Lee Resolution, which declared the colonies were "free and independent states".



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

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**THE GUARDIAN**

*familyhistorydaily.com*

In addition to the difficulties that you may encounter locating a cemetery you will deal with more challenges once you get there. You will want to make sure you have everything you need to have a successful, comfortable and safe trip.

Expect lots of walking and uneven, rocky, sandy, wet or spongy ground. If it is a sunny day, shade may be hard to come by and sudden rain can leave you caught many minutes from your car.

Dress for the weather and, if possible, wear pants that cover your legs and comfortable shoes that don't leave the toes exposed. Wear sunscreen and bug repellent when needed, and always carry water. Also remember that poison oak and ivy, as well as thorny plants, may be found in cemeteries, so be cautious of these as well. Don't visit a cemetery alone. Bring someone with you to help you search and in case of a flat tire, twisted ankle or other unexpected happening.

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)



Thank you to all the linemen, both local and from out of town. Your dedication and service working in extreme conditions have helped us through a difficult situation.





**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

*"It is painful enough to discover with what unconcern they speak of war and threaten it. They do not know its horrors. I have seen enough of it to make me look upon it as the sum of all evils." – Stonewall Jackson*

*"I am more anxious than I can express that my men should be not only good soldiers of their country but also good soldiers of the cross." – Stonewall Jackson*

*2023 Sons of Confederate Veterans National Reunion*

[www.2023scvreunion.org](http://www.2023scvreunion.org)

*Hosted By The James M Keller Camp #648*

*Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas*

*July 19, 20, 21, 22nd 2023*



**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 Veterans Reunion  
Elgin, Texas 1901*



## 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.

***“If freedom of speech is taken away, then dumb and silent we may be led, like sheep to the slaughter.”***

***— George Washington***



## GOD WILL ANSWER IN YOUR CRISIS

*desiringgod.org*

In his severe mercy, God punctuates our lives in this fallen age with crisis moments of varying degrees, designed for our everlasting good. For thousands of years, God’s people have known “times of trouble” and “days of distress,” sometimes all too well. And the same continues today. Our Father never promised that our being his would mean we won’t have ours.

Over and over again, the Scriptures describe the faithful not as those who never saw trouble, but as those who cried out to God in their crises. The men and women we remember as models faced the greatest times of trouble and days of distress. And God heard their cries for help. He was not deaf then — nor is he today — to the voices of his people, however great or humble, especially in crisis.

*“In the day of my trouble I call upon you, for you answer me” (Psalm 86:7)*

*“May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble!” (Psalm 20:1)*





## HISTORICAL EVENTS IN JULY

### 1861

- July 5** - Engagement at Carthage, Missouri  
**July 7** - Skirmish at Laurel Hill, Virginia (now West Virginia).  
**July 11** - Engagement at Rich Mountain, Virginia (now West Virginia).  
**July 18** - Engagement at Blackburn's Ford, Virginia.  
**July 21** - War's first major battle erupts at Manassas (Bull Run), Virginia.  
**July 26** - Federal forces evacuate Fort Fillmore, New Mexico Territory.

### 1862

- July 1** - Battle of Malvern Hill, Virginia.  
**July 12** - John Hunt Morgan's Confederate raiders capture Lebanon, Kentucky on their first raid.  
**July 13** - Garrison at Murfreesboro, Tennessee captured by Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest.

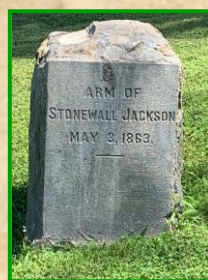
### 1863

- July 1** - Battle of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania begins.  
**July 2** - Second day of the Battle of Gettysburg, heavy fighting in The Wheatfield.  
**July 3** - Morgan's raiders cross the Cumberland River near Burkesville, Kentucky.  
**July 3** - Battle of Gettysburg concludes.  
**July 5** - Engagement at Birdson Ferry, Mississippi.  
**July 6** - Skirmish at Williamsport and Hagerstown, Maryland.

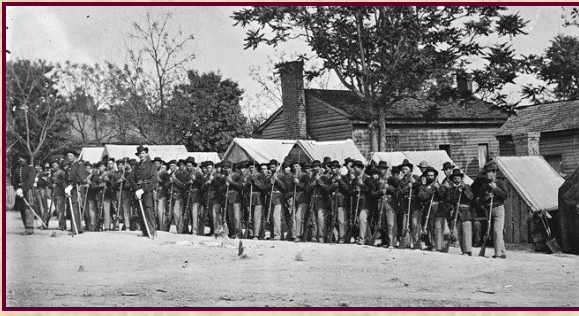
- July 11** - First assault on Fort Wagner.  
**July 17** - Engagement at Honey Springs, Indian Territory (now Oklahoma).  
**July 18** - Assault on Battery Wagner, led by the 54th Massachusetts.  
**July 19** - Engagement at Buffington Island on the Ohio River.  
**July 23** - Skirmish at Manassas Gap, Virginia.  
**July 26** - John Hunt Morgan captured at Salineville, Ohio.

### 1864

- July 9** - Battle of Monocacy, Maryland.  
**July 12** - Early's raid of Fort Stevens, DC.  
**July 14** - Battle of Tupelo (Harrisburg), Mississippi.  
**July 18** - Battle of Cool Spring, Virginia.  
**July 20** - Battle of Peachtree Creek, Georgia.  
**July 22** - Battle of Atlanta, Georgia.  
**July 24** - Second Battle of Kernstown, Virginia.  
**July 28** - Battle of Ezra Church, Georgia.  
**July 30** - Battle of The Crater at Petersburg, Virginia.



After being severely wounded at the Battle of Chancellorsville, Dr. Hunter Holmes McGuire amputated Lt. Gen. "Stonewall" Jackson's battered left arm in a field hospital. Jackson's chaplain, Rev. Beverly Tucker Lacy believed that Jackson's arm didn't deserve to be discarded so he took it with him across the fields to Ellwood, the plantation owned by his brother James, a mile from the field hospital. The Lacys buried Jackson's arm in their family cemetery.



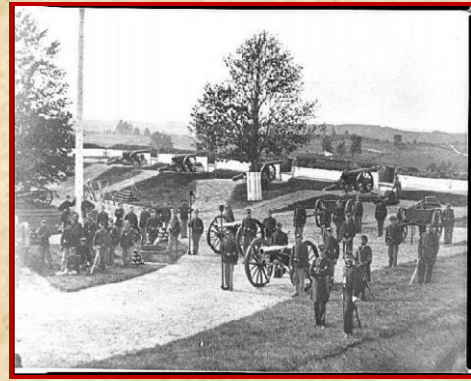
McClellan's Army

## THE BATTLE OF RICH MOUNTAIN

[warfarehistorynetwork.com](http://warfarehistorynetwork.com)

The so-called West Virginia Campaign of 1861 pitted Maj. Gens. McClellan and Robert E. Lee against each other in an early test of their tactical and strategic skills. Idiosyncratic traits of each man's personality would come to the fore during the campaign.

The Battle of Rich Mountain in July 1861 was characteristic of the small battles that occurred as the Union and Confederate forces battled for control of northwestern Virginia in the first eight months of the war. The South was put on the defensive in the region early in the war as a result of the desire of the independent-minded mountain people to remain loyal to the Union. On April 17, 1861, the Virginia convention voted to secede from the Union. Delegates from the western counties of Virginia who had voted against secession stormed out of the convention. They held their own convention in Wheeling on June 11 at which they nullified the ordinance of secession and vowed to create a new state made up of the Old Dominion's western counties.



## EARLY'S RAID OF FORT STEVENS, DC.

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



After his victory at Monocacy on July 9, 1864, Confederate Maj. Gen. Jubal A. Early moved south toward the Union capital of Washington, D.C. On July 11, Early's skirmishers tested the fortifications that encircled the city, manned by clerks and convalescent troops. During the night, veteran Union reinforcements from the Army of the Potomac disembarked from troop transports to bolster the city's defenses. On July 12, Early made a demonstration against Fort Stevens north of the city which was repulsed. In the afternoon, a Federal counterattack drove the Confederate skirmishers back from their positions and nearby Fort DeRussy. President Abraham Lincoln watched the action and came under fire from Confederate sharpshooters. Recognizing that the Union capital was defended by veterans, Early abandoned plans of taking the city and withdrew during the night.





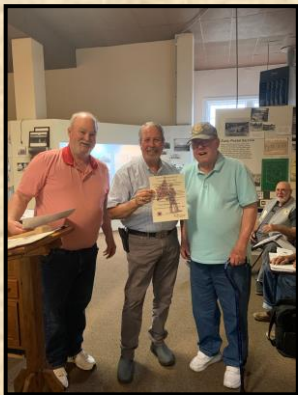
## FROM OUR JUNE MEETING



Newell Rambo (rt.)  
being presented with a  
Silver Cross by 5<sup>th</sup>  
Brigade Commander  
Bill Elliot,



Camp Commander  
Gregg Gipe (L) being  
presented with a  
Bronze Cross by 5<sup>th</sup>  
Brigade Commander  
Bill Elliot



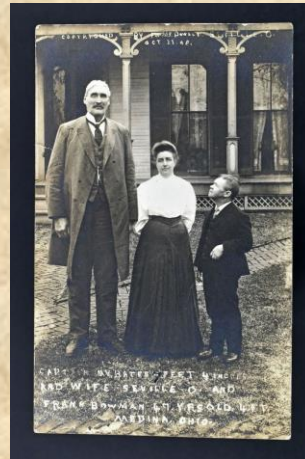
Phil Davis (rt) being  
presented with the  
Advance the Colors  
Award by 5<sup>th</sup> Brigade  
Commander Bill Elliot  
(center) and Camp  
Commander Gregg  
Gipe (L)



Roxanne Gipe being  
presented with a  
Texas Division Honor  
Award by Camp  
Commander Gregg  
Gipe

## Other Awards Presented:

Jerry Akin – Silver Cross  
Shawn Tully – Silver Cross  
Randall Yauch – Bronze Star  
James Locke – Bronze Star



## THE KENTUCKY GIANT

*battlefields.org*

Standing at seven feet and nine inches, Martin Van Buren 'Kentucky Giant' Bates was an unforgettable figure to encounter on the Civil War battlefield.

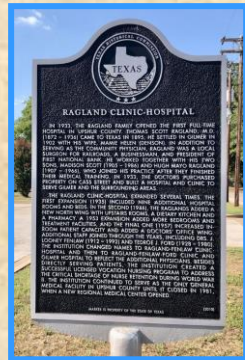
On November 9, 1837, in Letcher County, Kentucky, Martin Van Buren Bates was born to parents of normal stature. Describing his growth as 'gradual and probable,' Bates' body developed in both an equal and symmetrical manner. Bates endured his first growth spurt around the age of seven and measured in at six feet and 200 pounds by the age of twelve. More astonishingly, Bates continued to grow until the age of 28. Although Bates was rumored to be seven feet eleven inches, official documentation lists Bates as seven foot nine and approximately 500 pounds.

At the Civil War's onset, Bates enlisted as a private in the Fifth Kentucky Infantry on September 15th, 1861. After receiving



several promotions in this regiment in response to his bravery and leadership, Bates became First Lieutenant of the Virginia State Line Troops' Company A in 1863 where he developed his skills under Colonel John B. Floyd's guidance.

After the war Bates enrolled himself as one of P.T. Barnum's "curiosities" in July of 1865, and he traveled with the circus all over the United States and Canada for five years. Eventually, Bates settled in Seville, Ohio with his wife after resigning from the circus. Bates spent his final days on a vast farm, and he passed away at the age of 82 on January 19, 1919. His wide array of involvements and accomplishments make Bates one of the most memorable veterans of the Civil War.



In 1933, the Ragland family opened the first full-time hospital in Upshur County. Thomas Scott Ragland, M.D. (1872 – 1936) came to Texas in 1895; he settled in Gilmer in 1902 with his wife, Mamie Helen (Denson). In addition to serving as the community physician, Ragland was a local surgeon for railroads, a businessman, and president of First National Bank. He worked together with his two sons, Madison Scott (1905 – 1986) and Hugh Mayo Ragland (1907 – 1966), who joined his practice after they finished their medical training. In 1933, the

doctors purchased property on Cass Street and built a hospital and clinic to serve Gilmer and the surrounding areas.

The Ragland Clinic-Hospital expanded several times. The first expansion (1935) included nine additional hospital rooms and beds. In the second (1946), the raglands added a new north wing with upstairs rooms, a dietary kitchen and a pharmacy. A 1953 expansion added more bedrooms and treatment facilities, and the final one (1957) increased in-room patient capacity and added a doctors' office wing. Additional staff joined through the years, including Drs. J. Looney Fenlaw (1912 – 1992) and Tedroe J. Ford (1928 – 1980). The institution changed names to Ragland-Fenlaw Clinic-Hospital and then to Ragland-Fenlaw-Ford clinic and Gilmer Hospital to reflect the additional physicians. Besides directly serving patients, the institution created a successful licensed vocation nursing program to address the critical shortage of nurse retention during World War II. The institution continued to serve as the only general medical facility in Upshur County until it closed in 1981, when a new regional medical center opened.



Confederate encampment near Petersburg, Virginia, in June of 1864





## THE ROLE OF EAST TEXAS

*By Glenn Evans*

East Texans were knee-deep in cotton, tending to timber or eking out a living on family farms when cannon fire almost 1,000 miles to the east interrupted pioneer life 150 years ago this week.

News of the April 12, 1861, Confederate attack on Fort Sumter, S.C., took a while to reach settlers exploring new life in the 15-year-old Lone Star State. The opening round of the American Civil War recalls an episode when East Texans dropped their plowshares and answered a call to arms. An estimated 90,000 fellow Texans began streaming eastward to war.

Some stayed to make swords - guns, actually - supplying the Rebel forces from factories small and large that remain only as memories on historical markers East Texans drive past today on downtown streets and on county roads.

Markers for the men, and boys, who came home grace cemeteries in Gilmer, Jefferson, Longview, Marshall and the woods in between. Skeletons of the camps where they mustered and manufacturing sites that supplied their effort lie buried behind the Pine Curtain and along many roads East Texans drive daily.

As companies were formed and rudimentary instruction completed, citizens of the area participated in public ceremonies in which the units were given a farewell as they departed for war. The highlight of such ceremonies was the presentation of a Confederate or company flag by the local citizenry. The first such affair occurred in East Texas on April 20 as the W.P. Lane Rangers, the first company in the area to be raised and sent off to war received its flag."



The 150th Pennsylvania Infantry camp on Belle Plain, Virginia in March 1862, three weeks before the Battle of Chancellorsville.



Dead horses surround the Trostle House after the Battle of Gettysburg, in July of 1863. Union general Major General Daniel Sickles used the farmhouse as a headquarters.





## LIVING WITHOUT ELECTRICITY

In the early 1900s, before electricity, power to accomplish everyday tasks came from the labor of the entire farm family and their hired hands, plus horses and windmills. Occasionally stationary gasoline engines were used to run pumps, washing machines or other equipment.

Wood to heat the house and fuel the kitchen stove had to be cut and split by hand. Water was pumped from a well and had to be hauled, bucket by bucket, to the house or barn. Cows were milked by hand. The “toilet” was an outhouse in the yard. The heart of the home was the kitchen table with a kerosene lamp in the center. Here the family ate, read, did schoolwork, mended clothing and entertained neighbors.



Kerosene lamps and lanterns were the main source of light in the house and the barn. The circle of light cast by a kerosene lamp was small and it only gave the equivalent of 25 watts of light. Phonograph players were powered by a hand crank. Radios ran on batteries and they were expensive, so listening to the radio was a special event.

“Refrigerators” in the days before electricity were iceboxes in which blocks of ice kept the food cold. The ice was harvested in winter from frozen lakes and stored for use in spring and summer. Only a small amount of food could be stored in an icebox.

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.

