



# PATRIOT'S PERIODICAL

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

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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)

AUGUST 2023



## WEATHER AND THE CIVIL WAR

*battlefields.org*

Weather was one of the biggest factors in the American Civil War. It affected every part of the conflict. The American Civil War took place at the very tail end of what is called the Little Ice Age. Annual fluctuations in weather were both terrible and constant. Weather operates beyond the control of politicians, military leaders, soldiers, and civilians. Despite efforts of Civil War-era Americans to overcome rain, snow, wind, and heat, these elements set real limits to how armies moved, how crops flourished or

failed, how transportation worked or did not work, and how soldiers and civilians felt in the elements. Drought, frost, and heavy rain interrupted planting seasons, destroyed crops in the field, and dramatically impacted crop yields across the North American continent. Across the nation and through the entire war, weather played an outsized role in how the armies moved or did not move. Weather impacted morale as well. Soldiers in the field endured extreme cold, deep mud, rain and snow, stifling heat and dust that made simply breathing difficult. Both on the march and in camp, weather conditions could brighten or darken soldier's dedication to their respective cause. Civilians suffered as well. This was particularly true in the Confederacy.

While many Civil War-era Americans held to a view that humans could overcome nature, the experience of the war-years showed clearly that some conditions of climate and weather simply defied human agency.



# CAMP LEADERSHIP UPSHUR COUNTY PATRIOTS CAMP #2109

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## **THE GUARDIAN**

### **Cemetery Tips**

**Pay attention on the way in.** The entrance to a burial ground can tell you a lot about the time period in which it was established, and the culture associated with it.

**Examine the burial enclosures.** The presence (or absence) of fencing and other plot definitions can indicate the era in which the cemetery was active.

**Notice the trees.** Mature trees may be one of the most beautiful aspects of a burial area, but they are also one of the most historically significant. They may have been memorials, part of the original design plan, or added during a previous restoration process.

**Let the grave markers tell their story.** The way graves are marked can reveal a great deal of information. While the largest and most formal monuments are the ones most people consider, it's the smaller ones that often tell hidden secrets about the site.

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)



128th SCV Reunion Hot Springs, Arkansas

"We had a great time at the Hot Springs Reunion. As you can see from the picture Texas had the largest delegation present. Our Brothers took advantage of how close it was to Texas." ... 5<sup>th</sup> Brigade Commander Bill Elliot





## UPSHUR CO. PATRIOTS GUARDIANS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Guardian</u> <u>Status</u>	<u>Number of</u> <u>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

*“...the contest is not over, the strife is not ended. It has only entered upon a new and enlarged arena.”*

*President Jefferson Davis, C.S.A., address to the Mississippi legislature in 1881.*



## 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.

*“But to tar the sacrifices of the Confederate soldier as simple acts of racism and reduce the battle flag under which he fought to nothing more than the symbol of a racist heritage, is one of the great blasphemies of our modern age”...James Webb*



## 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.

*Always stand on principle...even if you stand alone...John Adams*

*“How little do my countrymen know what precious blessings they are in possession of, and which no other people on earth enjoy!”  
— Thomas Jefferson*



## SUMMER DISAPPOINTMENTS

*Contributed by Joseph Smith*

*“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”*

***Romans 8:28***

Well, it takes infinite patience, and it takes infinite hope. Gardeners, no matter how many times defeated by the weather, the blight, and the hungry birds, will keep on gardening. As a rule, gardeners are a hopeful group of folks. But sometimes they yield to their disappointment. Summer is the season of disappointment. Summer is the season of high hopes followed by devastating disappointments.

Micah is one of that great series of prophets who flourished in both Israel and Judah in the eighth century before Christ. Micah is feeling frustrated. He has tried his best to speak to the people of Judah about justice and about covenant faithfulness, but it feels to him as though no lesson has been learned, no word has been taken seriously.



The essence of Micah's disappointment is that his work, his effort has gone for naught. Like a gardener who works and weeds, in hot weather and in wet, to get a little produce, only to find that the yields are very small ... just like that gardener, Micah feels disappointed. The work he has been doing seems not to have paid off at all.

The summer of disappointment begins when we wake up and admit that all that we are doing, all the dreams we are dreaming, all the investments of time and energy ... it will not amount to a hill of beans. It is being ignored and rejected. That's a summer disappointment. That is a rude awakening.

The way out of disappointment is through repentance. Are you with me? The way out of disappointment is through repentance. "I must bear the indignation of the Lord, because I have sinned against him."

When we feel disappointment in life, we blame our own expectations, we blame those who love us, and ultimately, we blame God. Repentance and acceptance of grace takes us away from self and toward contentment.

***"The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."***

***Psalm 34:18***



## **HISTORICAL EVENTS IN JULY**

### **1861**

**August 10** - Battle of Wilson's Creek, Missouri

**August 12** - Confederates ambushed by Mescalero Apaches in Big Bend country south of Fort Davis, Texas

**August 14** - Soldiers of the 79th New York mutiny near Washington, D.C.

**August 29** - Capture of Forts Hatteras and Clark, North Carolina

### **1862**

**August 5** - Engagement at Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**August 6** - CSS *Arkansas* scuttled near Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**August 9** - Battle of Cedar Mountain (Slaughter Mountain), Virginia

**August 13** - Skirmish on Yellow Creek, Missouri

**August 15** - Skirmish at Clarendon, Arkansas

**August 19 to 21** - Federal raid on Louisville & Nashville Railroad

**August 22** - Affair at Catlett's Station, Virginia

**August 28** - The Battle of Second Manassas (Bull Run) begins at Brawner's Farm (Groveton), Virginia

**August 29/30** - Battle of Richmond, Kentucky

**August 30** - The Battle of Second Manassas ends with a decisive Confederate victory.

### **1863**

**August 1** - Federal cavalry advance from Witteburg on campaign to capture Little Rock, Arkansas

**August 17** - Federals begin bombardment of Fort Sumter as siege of Fort Wagner continues.

**August 26** - Engagement at White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia

**August 27** - Skirmish at Bayou Meto (Reed's Bridge), Arkansas

## 1864

**August 2** - Cavalry skirmish at Hancock, Maryland

**August 4** - Operations around Brazos Santiago, Texas

**August 5** - Battle of Mobile Bay, Alabama

**August 7** - Engagement at Moorefield, West Virginia

**August 9** - Confederates detonate bomb aboard ship at City Point, Virginia

**August 16** - Engagement at Guard Hill (Front Royal), Virginia

**August 18** - Battle of Globe Tavern (Weldon Railroad), Virginia begins

**August 20** - Cavalry combat at Lovejoy's Station on the Macon & Western Railroad in Georgia

**August 21** - Battle of Glove Tavern (Weldon Railroad) concludes.

**August 21** - Skirmish at Summit Point, West Virginia.

**August 23** - Fort Morgan, at the entrance to Mobile Bay, Alabama, falls to the Federals.

**August 25** - Second Battle of Reams Station, Virginia.

**August 31** - Battle of Jonesborough, Georgia.



## ATTACK ON FORT DAVIS

*nps.gov*



The discovery of gold in California, brought a stream of travelers making their way to the gold fields. This provided easy targets for Mescalero Apaches who lived in the Davis, Chisos and Guadalupe Mountains. They took the animals, provisions and often the lives of these travelers. In response to these raids the Army established military posts in the area and began to campaign against the Mescaleros.



A notable Mescalero Apache attack against Fort Davis troops occurred in August 1861 when the post was manned by Confederate forces. Mescaleros under War Chief Nicolas raided the post's livestock corral. A party of 14 Confederate Texans under Lt. Reuben Mays pursued the Mescaleros south into the Big Bend country. Nicolas surprised his pursuers in a box canyon and all the Confederates were killed except for one Mexican guide who escaped.

In 1871, the Mescaleros agreed to a tentative peace and many withdrew to a reservation in New Mexico, leaving the Texas frontier quiet for four years.







Effects of Explosion at City Point Virginia, August 9, 1864

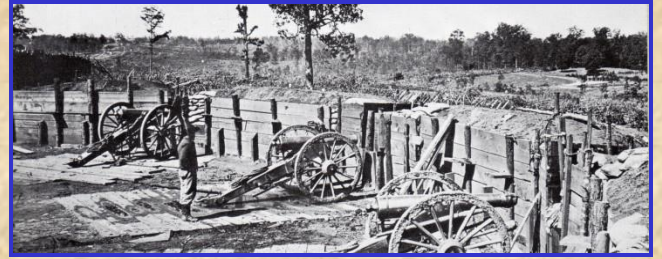
## EXPLOSION AT CITY POINT

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

At 11:40 A. M. on August 9, 1864, a massive explosion rocked Ulysses S. Grant's headquarters and the main Union supply base for the Siege of Petersburg at City Point (modern day Hopewell), Virginia.

It was just as the Confederate saboteur, John Maxwell, had hoped. Maxwell had left Richmond on July 26, accompanied by a guide, R. K. Dillard. His mission was to take the "horological torpedo" (i.e., a time bomb) he had invented, and use it against Union shipping on the James River. Maxwell and Dillard ended up in City Point on the morning of August 9 via Norfolk, where they had learned of the massive number of supply vessels gathered near Grant's headquarters. Dillard remained behind while Maxwell found an opportunistic target in the form of the supply barge *J. E. Kendrick*. The ship's captain was absent, and the barge was packed full of ammunition. Maxwell convinced a sentry to have someone bring "the package", his bomb, aboard. Before he handed it over, he activated the bomb, and retired to a bluff with Dillard to observe what effect, if any, his bomb would have. The effect was spectacular. The explosion completely

obliterated the *Kendrick*, another barge, and a building on the wharf.



## BATTLE OF JONESBOROUGH

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

By late August 1864, the city of Atlanta was not yet subdued by Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman's armies. A few supply lines remained open to the city supporting the army of Lieut. Gen. John B. Hood encircled there. Union cavalry raids inflicted only superficial damage, quickly repaired by the Confederates. Sherman in his mind determined that if he could destroy the Railroads to the south the Rebel army would be forced to evacuate the city. On August 25, Union infantry began moving towards the railroad near Jonesborough. To counter Sherman, Hood sent Lieut. Gen. William J. Hardee with two corps to halt the Union movement. On August 31, Hardee attacked west of Jonesborough but was easily repulsed. Fearing a direct attack on Atlanta, Hood withdrew one corps from Hardee's force that night. The next day, a Union attack broke through Hardee's troops. That evening, Hood evacuated Atlanta, which surrendered to Federal troops on September 2.







**MECHANIZED**  
**CAVALRY**  
**1<sup>ST</sup> BATTALION**  
**COMPANY C**

The Mechanized Cavalry held a meeting on Saturday July 29, 2023 at the Rosedale Cemetery in Gladewater Texas. This Cemetery was established in 1851 and is the final resting place for numerous Confederate Veterans and 1 Union soldier. The cemetery is managed by Mrs. Ette Withers (photo below). Mrs. Withers was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for allowing activities and meetings and for her tireless work managing this beautiful place. After the meeting lunch was enjoyed by all attending at Tele's Restaurant in Gladewater.



Compatriot David Palmer being sworn into the Mechanized Cavalry by Randall Yach



“We of the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) who ride motorcycles have banded together into a special interest group within the organization. Members of the SCV are most welcome and encouraged to join even if they do not have a motorcycle (dismounted cavalry) at the time of submitting the SCV Mechanized Cavalry Membership Application. We currently have one annual national meet, around the second week of June, which rotates to each host state each year. Members living near each other are encouraged to gather on a more frequent basis to attend camp meetings, dedications, re-enactments, and other SCV and UDC events together. Even rides for fun are good to hone the skills and fellowship of the South's new Mechanized Cavalry! We have "Back Patches" that you may wear, if you wish, at appropriate places and times. Had the motorcycle been in existence during the War Between the States our ancestors would certainly have utilized that mode of transportation. We are then the present-day mechanized cavalry, Confederate States of America, on-going.”





## REPARATIONS

By: Jennifer Luddeen

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. 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."

The Pew Research Center found that about three-quarters or more of white adults oppose reparations, and so do a majority of Latinos and Asian Americans. A large majority of Black Americans support them. There's also more support among younger people and a sharp political divide, with overwhelming opposition from Republicans and conservatives. "You can't take what we know now and try to superimpose yourself onto 150 years ago. Slavery was wrong but to try and make amends at this point makes no sense. The generation that would be paying for it has nothing to do with what was done in the past." In the Pew survey, even most supporters of reparations considered them unlikely to happen in their lifetime.

## STERLING CARROLL HART

*genealogytrails.com*

Mr. S. C. Hart, lawyer and planter of Gilmer, was born March 5, 1856, at the old Hart Homestead, two miles northwest of the present courthouse, but which, during early days, was temporarily used as the official county seat. It is our exultant pleasure to say in this connection that his father, W. H. Hart, was, beyond dispute, the first settler in Upshur County. As a land surveyor, the Indians made a deal with him to locate the public highway from Marshall to Gilmer, under which terms they guaranteed him protection, and faithfully discharged that part of the agreement. With his ox-wagon, he blazed the way, and built the first house, which was his private residence, and incidentally used as headquarters for the people and for official purposes as above stated. Here Judge O. M. Roberts, later governor of Texas, and Dave Arden, district attorney, held court, and among the legal attendants were Gens. Sam Houston and John H. Reagan, and occasionally court would be adjourned and all would go on a hunt for game, led by David Lee, brother-in-law to Mr. Hart and a noted bear-hunter all kinds of wild game abounding plentifully.

The father (W. H. Hart) had righted 640 acres of land, on which was started the town of Gilmer, but same was later changed to the present location. During the Civil war his residence was the rendezvous hospital for wounded Confederate soldiers, he being engaged in gathering them in and caring for them. Mr. Hart, senior, died in 1886, aged seventy-six years. His wife died in 1906, aged eighty-four years.



Mr. Hart is a man of extraordinary intelligence and business ability, and when it comes to history is one of the best posted and most interesting men with whom to converse in East Texas.

## CONFEDERATE DOG, SAWBUCK



Sawbuck was a dog who traveled with the Confederacy. Sawbuck's master (there is no record of the man's name) was part of the Louisiana Brigade led by LeRoy Augustus Stafford.

During a battle, Sawbuck was known to race up and back along the front lines, barking at the enemy. He was at Gettysburg where Stafford's men succeeded in taking Cemetery Hill.

At some point during the war, Sawbuck was shot in the right foreleg. He recovered, and after that, the men encouraged him to remain behind the lines where he continued to cheer them on.

Sawbuck knew every man in his brigade. If a battle ended and Sawbuck was separated from his group, he waited at the side of the road as Confederate soldiers marched by. When he saw one of his men, he dashed over to the fellow, bounding and kissing in excitement. Then man and dog joined together to go off to find their unit.

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.

