



**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)

SEPTEMBER 2023

**WELCOME SEPTEMBER**

*freshexchange.com*



Watching the edges of the leaves turn I have been reminded that this is a pivotal point in the rotation of the year.

September is a time of transition in so many varying ways. This is when we get back to routines with school, daily life, work, and more. It is the calm before the final parts of the year and a season of holidays.

September marks the beginning of the end of the year. This month we will enjoy the last day of summer (September 22nd) and we will turn our clocks backward to accommodate the changing light of the day. We will watch as the leaves begin to change color and offer our last beautiful show before they fall and wait to be covered by blankets of snow. Fall is the last vibrant breath and dance of nature before she tucks herself in beneath the quiet of winter.

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**PATRIOTS CAMP #2109**

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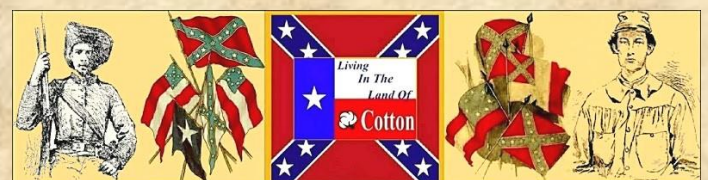
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## THE GUARDIAN

When we think of cemeteries and genealogy we concentrate on the ancestor's headstone because that's where the information we need (name, birth and death date) are found. But have you considered other elements of the burial location as you study your ancestor's death and final resting place? Where the deceased is buried may provide information about their associations and memberships (church, veteran, or fraternal lodge cemetery, for example). Items adhered to or placed next to the headstone might provide clues to lineage society membership or military service.

When a family purchased a burial coffin and headstone, they could have added additional items such as stone vases, statuary, and benches, as well as protective elements referred to as "grave guards" or "grave protectors." In addition, the cemetery lot or grave fencing might have enclosed one or more graves. Reasons for grave protection would be protection from the elements (rain, flooding), people, or animals.

Stone and fencing manufacturers made cemetery lot fencing and grave guards. One manufacturer, Amos Rank & Co. from

Salem, Ohio, described its products this way: "Rank's Patent Grave-guards are intended for guarding the graves, also for the receptable of head and foot stones. They are made of metal, cast in suitable molds, painted or enameled, as may be ordered, of different styles and sizes."

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)



## 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

## 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.

**September 8, 1900** - A hurricane with winds of 120 mph struck Galveston, Texas, killing over 8,000 persons, making it the worst natural disaster in U.S. history. The hurricane and tidal wave that followed destroyed over 2,500 buildings.

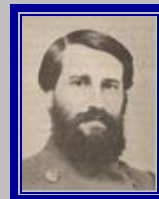
**September 17, 1787** - At the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, delegates from twelve states voted unanimously to approve the proposed U.S. Constitution.



## 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.**

**“Overgrown military establishments are under any form of government inauspicious to liberty and are to be regarded as particularly hostile to republican liberty” ...,George Washington**



## DISCONTENT BUT CONTENT

*varietyreading.com*

I heard a sermon at church about God's promise of strength for daily living. The main verses the message was based on were Phillipians 4:10-13 *"I can do all this through him who gives me strength."* Christians have a contentment so long as they hold to Christ for everything. Knowing that nothing can separate us from the love of God gives us the ability to not be discontented by our circumstances. I am reminded of Romans 8:38-39 *"neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

However, in a way, we should never be content. We sell ourselves short if we become complacent; we should always be longing to have a closer relationship with God and eager to do more good for others in the name of Jesus Christ. This opportunity is a privilege. The sort of discontentment that motivates us to not miss this opportunity is different from discontentment that results from negative circumstances. It is a source of joy because though we were the lowest of the low, God has chosen us to be His children and called

us to be involved in His holy work Ephesians 2:10 "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."



## HISTORICAL EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER

### 1861

**September 5** - Skirmish at Papinsville, Missouri.

**September 6** - Federal forces seize Paducah, Kentucky.

**September 10** - Engagement at Carinfex Ferry, Virginia (now West Virginia).

**September 12** - Siege of Lexington, Missouri begins.

**September 12 to 15** - Battle of Cheat Mountain, Virginia (now West Virginia).

**September 20** - Union garrison surrenders Lexington, Missouri.

**September 26** - Skirmish near Fort Thorn, New Mexico Territory.

### 1862



**September 1** - Battle of Chantilly (Ox Hill), Virginia.

**September 9** - Skirmish at Barnesville, Maryland.

**September 14** - Battle of South Mountain Gaps, Maryland.

**September 17** - Battle of Antietam (Sharpsburg), Maryland.

**September 17** - Union forces evacuate Cumberland Gap, a strategically important

mountain pass near the junction of Virginia, Tennessee, and Kentucky.

**September 17** - Munfordville, Kentucky surrenders to Confederate forces.

**September 19** - Battle of Iuka, Mississippi.

**September 19/20** - Battle Of Shepherdstown (Boteler's Ford), Virginia (now West Virginia).

**September 25** - Fighting at Snow's Pond, Kentucky.

**September 27** - One of the first Federal regiments of black soldiers is organized in New Orleans, Louisiana.

### 1863



**September 6** - Confederates evacuate Fort Wagner and Morris Island, South Carolina.

**September 8** - Confederates repulse attack at Sabine Pass (Fort Griffin), Texas .

**September 9** - Federal army enters Chattanooga, Tennessee.

**September 10** - Little Rock, Arkansas captured by Union forces.

**September 18** - Confederates force their way across Chickamauga Creek.

**September 18** - Skirmish at Bristol in east Tennessee.

**September 19** - Battle of Chickamauga, Georgia.

**September 20** - Day two of the Battle of Chickamauga, Union troops retreat to Chattanooga, Tennessee.

### 1864



**September 1** - Confederates evacuate Atlanta, Georgia.

**September 2** - Federal Army enters Atlanta.

**September 7** - Evacuation of Atlanta citizens ordered by Union General William T. Sherman.

**September 8** - George McClellan accepts nomination as Democratic candidate for President.

**September 16** - Confederate General Wade Hampton's raid at Coggins Point (Great Cattle Road), Virginia.

**September 19** - Battle of Third Winchester (Opequon), Virginia.

**September 22** - Battle of Fisher's Hill, Virginia.

**September 23** - Skirmish at Athens, Alabama.

**September 27** - Battle of Pilot Knob (Fort Davidson), Missouri.

**September 27** - Massacre at Centralia, Missouri.

**September 28** - Skirmish at Decatur, Georgia

**September 29** - Battle of Fort Harrison (Chaffin's Farm), Virginia.

**September 30** - Skirmish at Carter's Station, Tennessee.

**September 30** - Battle of Peebles' Farm, Virginia.



## GRANT TAKES PADUCAH KENTUCKY

*ironbrigader.com*

Kentucky leaned slightly more toward the majorities in both houses of the state legislature in August 1861 elections and it was only a matter of time before the state would be drawn into the conflict. A Confederate force under General Leonidas Polk made the first move, occupying Columbus, Kentucky. With Kentucky's neutrality violated, Brigadier General

Ulysses S. Grant made a counter movement.

Paducah remained a Union supply base for the rest of the war. In March of 1864, General Nathan Bedford Forrest and his cavalry attacked Paducah, capturing horses and supplies, but failing to take the Union garrison there.

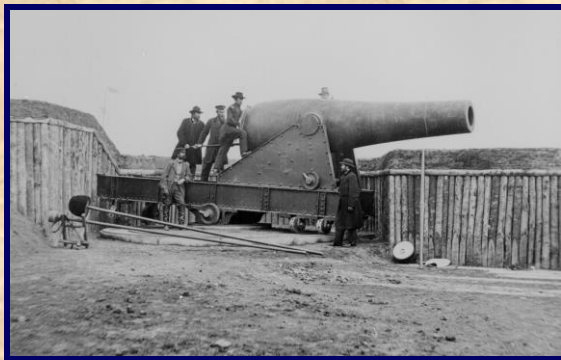


## RECRUITING, RETENTION & HERITAGE OPERATION SYMPOSIUM

Held August 12, 2023, Texarkana Texas



Compatriots Jerry Akin – (L) Bill Starnes – Rt. With Jason Boshers (center) – Commander in Chief SCV,



15" Rodman Gun Alexandria, Va.

## SHEPHERDSTOWN BATTLE OF BOTELER'S FORD

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



On September 19, 1862, two days after the bloodletting at Antietam, elements of Maj.

Gen. Fitz John Porter's V Corps pushed across the Potomac River at Boteler's Ford and attacked the Confederate rearguard commanded by Brig. Gen. William Pendleton. Early the next day, Porter pushed elements of two divisions across the river to establish a bridgehead. Gen. A. P. Hill's division counterattacked while many of the Federals were crossing the river, inflicting heavy casualties. Porter pulled back to the Union side of the river. This rearguard battle discouraged Federal pursuit of Robert E. Lee's defeated army back to Virginia and ended Lee's Maryland Campaign. On November 7, President Lincoln relieved McClellan of command for not aggressively pursuing Lee's retreating army.



Confederate Engine House Atlanta, Ga.



## SABINE PASS

*battlefields.org*

### **Jefferson County, TX Sep 8, 1863**

Union forces attacked Fort Griffin outside of Sabine City along the Sabine River to establish a Union presence in Texas and discourage trade between the Confederacy and Mexico. Known as one of the most lopsided battles of the war, the Battle of Sabine Pass ended in a Union defeat.

### **How It Ended**

Confederate Victory. After 35 minutes of intense and accurate fire from the Confederate garrison at Sabine, two Federal ships were destroyed, 200 prisoners were captured, and the Union forces withdrew.



Maj. Gen.  
William Buel Franklin



Lt. Richard William Dowling

### Forces Engaged

5,046

#### Union

5,000

#### Confederate

46

About 6:00 am on the morning of September 8, 1863, a Union flotilla of four gunboats and seven troop transports, under the command of General William Bull Franklin, steamed into Sabine Pass and up the Sabine River to reduce Fort Griffin and

land troops. As the gunboats approached Fort Griffin, they came under accurate fire from six cannons. The fort's small force of 46 men, under the command of Lt. Richard W. Dowling, disabled two ships, captured the gunboat Clifton with about 200 prisoners, and forced the Union flotilla to retire.



## GILMER 175<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

*news-journal.com*

History buffs stepped back in time Saturday, August 19 while visiting the square in downtown Gilmer as part of the city's 175th birthday celebration.



Officially called "The 175th Anniversary of Gilmer: The Square Roots of Gilmer," attendees toured downtown buildings, viewed historical maps, listened to live music and observed as community members portrayed famous figures with connections to the Upshur County town.

While touring buildings Saturday, visitors were able to read biographies about early-day Gilmer residents and examine maps showing how the town looked in its infancy. Among the notable Texans with ties to the town who were portrayed Saturday were Oran Roberts, who taught school in Gilmer and went on to serve as the state's 17th governor, and legendary Texan Sam Houston, who gave two speeches downtown before the Civil War.

## RAGLAND CLINIC- HOSPITAL

*hmdb.org*



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. 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.

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.



## MECHANIZED CAVALRY



On August 12, 2023, the Mechanized Cavalry held a meeting and set a Memorial Stone at the Saltillo Cemetery in Saltillo, Tex. for Hugh Hudson. The Cavalry also Honored 6 Confederate Graves in the Cemetery. There was a musket salute and cannon volley in their honor.



## HOOD'S TEXAS BRIGADE

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

The brigade was organized on October 22, 1861, in Richmond, Virginia. It was initially commanded by Brig. Gen. Louis T. Wigfall and composed of the First, Fourth, and Fifth Texas Infantry Regiments, the only Texas troops to fight in the Eastern Theater. Originally, the First Texas was commanded by Wigfall and Lt. Col. Hugh McLeod, the Fourth Texas by Col. John Bell Hood and Lt. Col. John Marshall, and the Fifth Texas by

Col. James J. Archer and Lt. Jerome B. Robertson. On June 1, 1862, eight infantry companies from Wade Hampton's South Carolina Legion, commanded by Lt. Colonel Martin W. Gary, were added, and in November 1862 the Third Arkansas Infantry, commanded by Col. Van H. Manning, joined the brigade. Both the Georgia and South Carolina units were transferred out in November 1862, but the Third Arkansas remained a part of the brigade until the end of the war.

Wigfall resigned command of the brigade on February 20, 1862, and on March 7 Hood was promoted to brigadier general and placed in command. Because of his daring leadership the brigade adopted the name of Hood's Texas Brigade, despite his brief service of only six months as commander. The brigade served throughout the war in James Longstreet's First Corps of Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. It participated in at least twenty-four battles in 1862, including Eltham's Landing, Gaines' Mill, Second Manassas, and Sharpsburg (Antietam). In October the Third Arkansas Regiment replaced the Eighteenth Georgia and Hampton's Legion. On November 1, 1862, Brig. Gen. Jerome B. Robertson became brigade commander, and Hood was elevated to command of the division in which the Texas Brigade was attached.

### Sidenote:

*Editor has as one of his ancestors (John Watts Webb) who was a member of Hoods Texas Brigade, Co. E, 1<sup>st</sup>. Texas Division. Webb is buried in Harrison Co. Texas.*



**UPSHUR COUNTY, TEXAS**  
**FIRES, WRECKS, AND**  
**OTHER CALAMITIES**

genealogytrails.com

**1881**

Gilmer, Tex, May 17 - One-half of the West-Side Square was burned last night, together with F. E. Bornwell's grocery and liquor store, Rogers & Hamilton's saloon, and the Hudley House. The loss is \$5,000, which is covered by insurance. (*The Baltimore Sun, Baltimore, Maryland, May 19, 1881*)

**1884**

News of an incendiary fire at Big Sandy, Tex., a few days ago, has been received. Total loss, \$25,000; insurance, \$8,000. The heaviest losers are: S. Ahrenson, dry goods, \$8,000; J. M. Darrah, dry goods, \$7,000. (*The North Alabamian, Tuscumbia, Ala, Nov 21, 1884*)

**1899**

Mr. Wm. Parker's blacksmith shop was burned last Monday morning, but a new one is nearing completion on the same ground. [*Dallas Morning News - Dallas, Texas, Monday, May 29, 1899*]

**1905**

**BOY BURNED TO DEATH**  
Gilmer, Tex., Jan 6 - News has reached here of the burning of what is known as the old Goode homestead near Bettie, in which the five year old son of Wm. Wright lost his life. Mr. Wright was away from home when the house caught fire at night, and his wife picked up the baby in her arms and led the boy by the hand and escaped from the

building, but in the excitement, the boy walked back into the house, crawled in bed, covered up and was burned. [*The Jennings Daily Record.*]

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.

