



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

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SEPTEMBER 2021

**NEXT MEETING**  
**SEPTEMBER 7, 2021**  
[www.upshurpatriots.org](http://www.upshurpatriots.org)



**THE TRUE**  
**MEANING OF**  
**SOUTHERN**  
**HERITAGE**

*By C.W. Roden*

I'm all for remembering history, for celebrating heritage, and celebrating the South. After years of critical thinking and from taking the time to not only visit Confederate memorial services, but to talk with those who attended them, I see them as free-thinking individuals. I saw people who cared about the dead in the graves, the men honored on those monuments, and the connection through blood and family they have with the living today.

I learned from observation and keeping an open mind that these were people who did not glorify war or hatred for anyone -- not even the Union soldier. All I saw were people who cared about the dead in the graves, the men honored on those Monuments, and the connection through blood and family. What I found was simply a group of fellow Southerners who shared my love for history and personal identity.

I saw virtual tapestry of Southern cultural identity. All equal brothers and sisters who shared one important thing in common: they were all Southern and descendants of the Confederate dead. I saw the simple message in all of those memorial services and small acts of honor, especially to those lying in unmarked graves with Unknown Soldier as their own legacy: *We remember you, soldier -- and we still care.* True Southern heritage as a living heritage is about all of us. For those of us who honor Southern-Confederate historical heritage, we do not so much honor the War Between the States itself -- the destruction and the loss of human life.

We honor the courage of the Confederate soldier himself - soldiers recognized as American veterans. Our shared Southern heritage is *all* a part of us. For us the Confederate soldier wasn't just some nameless footnote in history, he was our ancestor.



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**THE GUARDIAN**



*“Sirs, you have no reason to be ashamed of your Confederate dead; see to it they have no reason to be ashamed of you.”*  
*Robert Lewis Dabney, Chaplain for Stonewall Jackson*

Across the nation are buried the remains of unknown Civil War soldiers. Starting in 1862, the Union began to establish cemeteries for those fighting on behalf of the United States and bodies began to be moved from where they had fallen. When they came upon Confederate bodies, they were buried where they were found. The vast majority of the remains of the Confederate soldiers were left where they were initially buried. This resulted in hundreds of small cemeteries across the country that are filled with unknown Confederate troops.

With more than half of her men — sons, husbands, and fathers never returning home, the people of the South were mourning, wondering, and trying valiantly to find their men. These men have been recognized by the U.S. Government as U.S. Veterans. That means their actions and service was found by Congress to be honorable and worthy of remembrance and recognition.

*The SCV Guardian Program is in place to honor our Confederate Ancestors. Consider taking part in this worthwhile program.*

*Contact Program Chairman Phil Davis for information at: [pdavis37@etex.net](mailto:pdavis37@etex.net)*

**MEETINGS OF THE**  
**UPSHUR COUNTY**  
**PATRIOTS ARE NOW HELD**  
**AT THE HISTORIC UPSHUR**  
**MUSEUM**



**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	46
T. Mitchell/G. Linton	Full	5
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
Gregg Gipe	GPT	3

W=Wilderness GPT=Guardian Pro Tem



*If you are interested in perpetuating the ideals that motivated your Confederate ancestor, the SCV needs you. The memory of the Confederate soldier is being distorted by some in an attempt to alter history. Unless the descendants of Southern soldiers resist those efforts, a part of our nation's cultural heritage will cease to exist.*



**IN MEMORY OF  
COMPATRIOT BEN  
DAVID HAY. MAY  
HE REST IN PEACE.**

**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.



*The Sons of Confederate Veterans is a non-profit, heritage organization whose mission is to preserve the history and legacy of Confederate Veterans. It is not associated with any anti-government or hate groups. Membership is open to any male descendant of a Confederate Veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces.*



## 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”*



## STRENGTH THROUGH ADVERSITY

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

Adversity comes in many forms beyond just physical. Some people mistakenly think that being a Christian shields them from their share of adversity. The typical view of the Christian life is that it means being delivered from all adversity. But it actually means being delivered in adversity, which is something very different. God helps us during our time of adversity. We would prefer to avoid any problems, yet life doesn’t happen that way.

Jesus warns us to not be surprised by adversity. “In the world you will have tribulations; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33). Jesus is telling us that we have nothing to fear, because God will be with us. The strain of life is what builds our strength. If there is no strain, there will be no strength. Overcome your own timidity and take the first step. Then God will give you nourishment.

Adversity is universal and impartial. It is painful both physically and emotionally. It can come suddenly and without warning. God is forgiving for those who repent, so it can be a new beginning for what God has in store next.

We cannot choose to avoid adversity, but we can choose how we will respond. God gives us strength when we need it.





## HISTORICAL DATES IN SEPTEMBER

### 1861

**September 20** - Lexington, Missouri falls to Confederate forces under Sterling Price.

### 1862

**September 4-9**- Lee invades the North with 50,000 Confederates and heads for Harpers Ferry.

**September 17** - The Battle of Antietam (or Sharpsburg), Maryland, the bloodiest single day of the Civil War. The result of the battle ends General Lee's first invasion of the North.

### 1863

**September 19-20** - The Battle of Chickamauga, Georgia. The Union Army of the Cumberland under General William Rosecrans is defeated.

### 1864

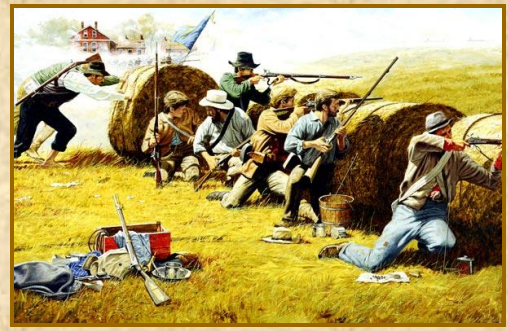
**September 1**- The fall of Atlanta, Georgia. Confederate troops under General Hood evacuate the city of Atlanta.

**September 19**- Third Battle of Winchester, Virginia.

**September 22**- Battle of Fisher's Hill, Virginia. The Union Army of the Shenandoah under General Philip Sheridan attacked Jubal Early's Confederates.

**September 29-30**- Battle of Fort Harrison near Richmond, Virginia.

**September 11, 2001** - The worst terrorist attack in U.S. history occurred as four large passenger jets were hijacked then crashed, killing nearly 3,000 persons.



## FIRST BATTLE OF LEXINGTON

*civilwaronthewesternborder.org*

The Battle of Lexington, Missouri, fought on September 18-20, 1861, was a victory for the Missouri State Guard (MSG) in the early stages of the Civil War. In the short term, the victory boosted the spirits of Missouri secessionists, but the State Guard failed to leverage any long-term gains from the “Battle of the Hemp Bales,” so called because the MSG used hemp bales to encircle the federal position at Lexington.

The MSG moved to consolidate its position and tighten the noose around the Unionists. After capturing the Anderson House, State Guard Colonel Ben Rives sent his men to the Missouri River to capture a steam boat and ferry, both loaded with supplies. In doing so, they also cut the federals off from the closest spring to their lines—and in the process denied the federals *any* water sources. With the victory, the MSG gained badly needed ammunition and supplies, not to mention the \$900,000 confiscated from the Lexington Bank.

Today, Lexington remains a small town 40 miles to the east of Kansas City, and is home to the Wentworth Military Academy.





## BATTLE OF FORT HARRISON

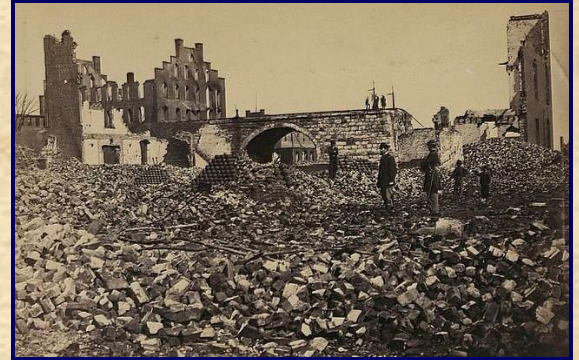
*battlefields.org*



On September 29, 1864, General Grant ordered to General Benjamin F. Butler to attack New Market Heights north of the James River. Butler surprised the Confederates by staging a two-prong attack on the right and center fronts. At the same time, Butler assigned General Edward Ord to attack Fort Harrison to the west. Since both areas were being attacked simultaneously, the Confederates couldn't parry both thrusts.

Fort Harrison was the strongest part of the defense because of its strategic placement with clear site lines toward the James River. With only 1,750 Confederates in the fort compared to the 4,150 Union soldiers that surrounded them, the Fort quickly fell. In the battle, General Hiram Burnham lost his life and in honor of his death the fort was renamed Fort Burnham. General Ord was critically wounded in the altercation and was unable to command for several months. Knowing the importance of Fort Harrison, General Lee attempted to recapture it the following day. This attack suffered from poor coordination, however, and failed. The constant presence of Union soldiers in this area forced Lee to move precious soldiers from Petersburg to this front.

## THE FALL OF ATLANTA SEPTEMBER 1864



Compatriot Bill Starnes presenting our August program.



5<sup>th</sup> Brigade Lt. Commander Phil Davis (L) is presented with a Meritorious Award at our August meeting. Phil is the Guardian Program director and a past Commander of the Upshur County Patriots.





On Sept. 11, 2001, America was forever changed. It has been 20 years since the attacks, but that tragic day, which served as a true test of the American spirit, will be remembered always.

So on this day, we observe Patriot Day and all that it represents—we honor the value of life, those we loved and lost our country's resilience, and the strength of the American spirit.



## LAFAYETTE, TEXAS



LaFayette (Lafayette), at the junction of Farm roads 993 and 1975, thirteen miles northeast of Gilmer was first settled in the late 1850s and was named for LaFayette Locke, the son of M. F. Locke, an early settler. A post office opened there in 1858, and by the mid-1880s the community had several gristmills and cotton gins, three

churches, a district school, and a population of thirty. A large deposit of iron ore, discovered nearby in the early 1890s, prompted a brief mining boom. The town's population grew to 400 by 1896. At its height during the iron boom, LaFayette had three cotton gins, a gristmill, a shingle mill, four general stores, several saloons, a Masonic lodge, and a weekly newspaper, the Iron Record. The boom proved to be short-lived, however, for investment money dried up as a result of the financial panics of the mid-1890s. After 1900 LaFayette declined. Its population dropped to 250 by 1914, and by the late 1930s it had two stores, a school, and a sawmill. The community's population in 1940 was listed as eighty, and it continued to decline during the 1950s, to a low of sixty in 1958. In the mid-1960s LaFayette had a community center, two churches, two cemeteries, and a number of scattered houses. In 1990 the town was a dispersed rural community with an estimated population of eighty.

## JEFFERSON DAVIS HIGHWAY

*texasstandard.org*



On July 29, 1925, a full 60 years after the American Civil War, Miss Decca Lamar West of Waco, Texas, wrote a strongly-worded letter to Chief Thomas H. MacDonald, the head of what was then the Federal Bureau of Public Roads. Miss West was an influential member of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. She was lobbying for a coast-to-coast highway to honor the former president of the Confederate States.



The honorary highway of which she wrote was almost fully realized. Today, the Jefferson Davis Memorial Highway still exists – but only in bits and pieces – from Virginia to California.

You'll find United Daughters of the Confederacy markers along highways in Georgia and Louisiana and Arizona. But New Mexico had them all removed from along I-10 three years ago. You can see the Texas markers along U.S. 90 and 290 and I-35, and along Highways 59 and 77 South, toward the border. Others have been removed including those in Elgin, San Antonio and San Marcos.

### REASONS TO FLY THE CONFEDERATE BATTLE FLAG



Flying the Battle Flag reinforces the meaning of the First Amendment to the Constitution, which is supposed to guarantee that no despot can interfere with your God-given right to express yourself.

It is a universal symbol of resistance to tyranny, having been sighted flying in nearly every modern day conflict.

It is a constant and powerful reminder that we have not forgotten what the Yankees did to our Ancestors and to our civilization.

It honors the thousands of Southern Men, and Boys, whose blood was spilled, and who lost their lives, homes and everything they had.



Labor Day is a federal holiday in the United States celebrated on the first Monday in September to honor and recognize the

American labor movement and the works and contributions of laborers to the development and achievements of the United States.

Oregon became the first state of the United States to make Labor Day an official public holiday. By 1894, thirty U.S. states were already officially celebrating Labor Day. In that year, Congress passed a bill recognizing the first Monday of September as Labor Day and making it an official federal holiday.

Labor Day this year falls on September 6.



### DOG TAX by Mike Cox

Times were tough in Texas after the Civil War. Unlike much of the South, the state had not been physically devastated by military action, but it had lost thousands of men to a lost cause and its economy was a wreck. Wharton County Texas had a solution. Beginning July 6, 1868, all dogs in Wharton County were to be rendered and taxed at a rate of \$1 each. Should a county dog owner not be willing to pay the tax, the animal would be shot by the tax assessor or his agent. A fee of 25 cents would be assessed the owner of the late feist, to cover time, ammunition and disposal.





## WALMART SHOPPER BANNED, HUSBAND CAUSES MISCHIEF

After I retired, my wife insisted that I accompany her on her trips to Walmart. Unfortunately, like most men, I found shopping boring and preferred to get in and get out.

Yesterday my dear wife received the following letter from the local Walmart.

Dear Mrs. Woolf,

Over the past six months, your husband has caused quite a commotion in our store. We cannot tolerate this behavior and have been forced to ban both of you from the store. Our complaints against your husband, Mr. Woolf, are listed below and are "documented by our video surveillance cameras":

July 2: Set all the alarm clocks in Housewares to go off at 5-minute intervals.

July 19: Walked up to an employee and told her in an official voice, 'Code 3 in Housewares. Get on it right away'. This caused the employee to leave her assigned station and receive a reprimand.

August 4: Went to the Service Desk and tried to reserve a bag of chips.

August 14: Moved a 'CAUTION – WET FLOOR' sign to a carpeted area.

August 23: When a clerk asked if they could help him he began crying and screamed, 'Why can't you people just leave me alone?' Emergency Medics were called.

September 4: Looked right into the security camera and used it as a mirror while he picked his nose.

September 12: Rode a display bicycle through the store and claimed he was taking it for a "test drive."

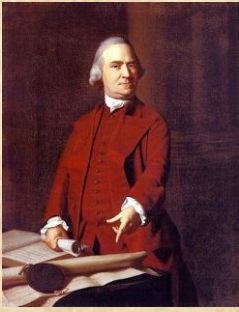
October 3: Darted around the Store suspiciously while loudly humming the 'Mission Impossible' theme.

October 18: Hid in a clothing rack and when people browsed through, yelled 'PICK ME! PICK ME!'

October 22: When an announcement came over the loud speaker, he assumed the fetal position and screamed 'OH NO! IT'S THOSE VOICES AGAIN!'

October 23: Went into a fitting room, shut the door, waited awhile, and then yelled very loudly, 'Hey! There's no toilet paper in here.' One of the Staff passed out.

I wonder if I'll have to go along on many more shopping trips?



*“The liberties of our country, the freedom of our civil constitution, are worth defending at all hazards; and it is our duty to defend them against all attacks. It will bring an everlasting mark of infamy on the present generation, enlightened as it is, if we should suffer them to be wrested from us by violence without a struggle, or be cheated out of them by the artifices of false and designing men.” - Samuel Adams*



In honor and in loving memory of our Confederate Ancestors who sacrificed and gave their all to protect home, our beloved Southland, and a way of life. May the heroic deeds of

these men be studied and understood, never to be lost or forgotten. Protecting and defending their memory to future generations. We are proud descendants of these brave and valiant soldiers for those who chose Upshur County, Texas as their home and final resting place - we will forever remember.

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, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

