



Patriots Periodical

Upshur County Patriots, Camp #2109
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Gilmer, Texas

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November 2015

COMMANDER'S CORNER

by Eddie "Spook" Pricer



The Yamboree Experience

The Yamboree has come and gone. On the one hand, it's a bit of a pain with the preparations, rescheduling of personal activities, and spending the better part of three days amongst the masses.

This is the second year that an information and recruiting booth was placed at the Yamboree Exhibit Grounds. As with the first year, compatriot volunteers expended approximately 165 hours preparing the booth, materials, setup, and staffing. Members of the General John Gregg and Upshur County Patriots Camps were responsible for another successful effort.

Our goal as with last year, was to provide factual information to the many people attending the Yamboree and recruit new members. The first year resulted in a couple of leads and the renewal of an inactive member. Not a great result for recruiting, but not bad for our first attempt. This year the results are not yet in as far as new members, however we easily gave out

10 times the number of applications and most of the individuals seemed much more eager. We even ran out of some handout materials that we felt would carry us through next year.

It was amazing how many people came to us desperate, yes desperate, to find a source for Confederate flags, hats and other items bearing any symbol of the Confederacy. I was surprised at the number of people with Union ancestors who also were looking for Confederate flags. The overriding theme was that they were fed up with Federalist style overreach by our government and political correctness run amok. We even put the bite on a few of them to become friends of the SCV.

I know the gun shows tend to be a bit more productive on realizing actual new members, but I also think events such as the Yamboree provide us with a better barometer on the feelings of the public. We will keep you posted on our recruiting efforts as we mull over new ideas to draw in potential candidates for future events.

Give What You Can to Heritage Defense

The Guardian

By Phil Davis



There are things in life that set us back, but there are also things that really inspire us and make us feel that what we are doing is more worthwhile, than we ever imagined. This article is about one of those things that make you feel real good about what you are doing and continues to inspire me.

This week I received three Guardian applications. As I was checking them over for compliance with the Rules & Guidelines, I immediately noticed that the member's SCV number was missing. All the other information was on the form. My first thought was that he did not want to give out his identification number. I use this number to identify an applicant in case there is someone with the same name.

I gave it some thought and decided to call him to find out why he had omitted the number. I was pleasantly surprised at his reason. He was so new to the SCV that he

hadn't gotten his identification number yet. If you know me, you know how happy I was. A brand new member and the first thing he does is to start tending to three graves. In fact he says he is getting six more ready to send to me. I tell you it made me feel good, more than ever, about the Guardian Program.

The story gets even better. This compatriot, his wife and two boys (Cadets) have made a family project of this endeavor. They go to cemeteries and search out Confederate Heroes' graves and do honors to them. Remember, he is so new, that he hasn't even got his SCV identification number yet. If we could get all of our Compatriots to do these things, the cemeteries would be covered with flags.

I must say that I thoroughly enjoyed visiting with this Compatriot! In short it made my day!

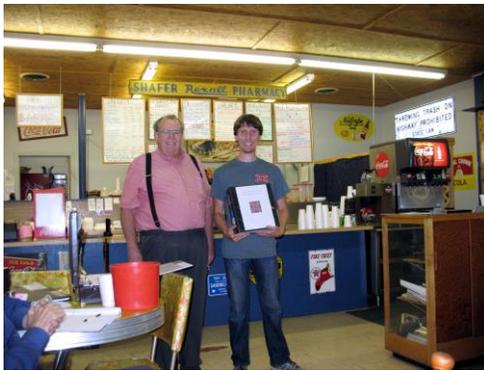
As I always say, I believe with all my being in the Guardian Program and I hope that in some small way I can convince you of its importance in fulfilling "The Charge". We must, now more than ever, show the world that we care about our Southern Heritage and the Valiant Heroes that fought to preserve it. As always I leave you with this question-

Are you a Guardian? If not, why not?

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, November 3rd, at 7:00 p.m.
Refreshments at 6:30 p.m.
Hadden's Sandwich Shop
On the Square, Gilmer, Texas



Compatriot Jared Jones with Commander Pricer presenting a historical book that he compiled.



Compatriot Kim Duffey awarded a Silver Cross Certificate at our October Meeting. Presenters are Eddie Pricer and Phil Davis.

Our Charge...

"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."

*Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander General,
United Confederate Veterans,
New Orleans, Louisiana April 25, 1906*



Lt. General Stephen D. Lee



Compatriot Bill Starnes discussing some of the history of Gilmer and Upshur County.

**Camp Leadership
Upshur County Patriots Camp #2109**

Commander

Eddie Pricer
(903) 762-6395
spooky1522@etex.net

1Lt. Commander

Phil Davis
(903) 790-7137
userphil97@aol.com

2Lt. Commander

Don Loyd
(903) 797-6922
donloyd@etex.net

Adjutant

Rickie Gipson
(903) 762-2471
grassburacres@yahoo.com

Chaplain

Jamie Eitson
(903) 592-4110
jeitson@aol.com

Web Master

Joe Reynolds
(903) 717-8608
Joe.Reynolds@upshurpatriots.org

Editor

David Palmer
(903) 237-8941
David.Palmer@upshurpatriots.org

If you are not receiving the Newsletter by e-mail, and would like to be added to the distribution list, contact:

David Palmer, Editor
david.palmer@upshurpatriots.org

Dues Renewal

It's that time again. Most of you will have received your dues invoice within the last few months. Several of our newest members paid the prorated amount and will not receive an invoice as they have paid through July 2015. Second Lieutenant Commander Don Loyd is now in charge of recruiting and retention and as such he will be reminding each of you the importance and necessity for dues payment, along with the timely response. Please remit your dues payment to Adjutant Rickie Gipson as soon as possible. If you are a bit of a foot dragger, don't be surprised to receive a reminder call or letter. Also, additional donations may be made to help fund several other ongoing projects. Please give generously as these are worthwhile endeavors. Remember, your dues and gifts are deductible. We are a qualified 501.C.3 tax exempt organization.



“True Grandson” and World War II veteran Bill Palmer (on L) being awarded 9 Guardian Certificates at our October Meeting. Presenters are Guardian Director Phil Davis and Commander Eddie Pricer. Bill is now Guardian over 10 graves in Harrison County.

True Grandson: Our closest living link to the Confederacy. An individual, whose grandfather was a bona fide Confederate Veteran, honorably discharged or deceased in line of duty.

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.





November Chaplain's Corner:

Proverbs 17:17

Honesty Makes Good Friends

"A Friend Loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity."

An Old Saying From Long Ago: "If a man had one good friend, he was rich." Living provides us a test to be loyal to one another. When loyalty breaks down, so does friendship. It will pay great dividends to remain honest with everyone.

A genuine friend will stick with us through the tough times, as well as the good times.

A true friend is revealed when difficult and painful circumstances occur. Surface relationships are good in fair weather, but unstable when the storm hits and the hurts prevail.

There are people who make very poor friends: Those who would introduce us to dangerous situations, and crime. Also, material possessions in great quantity can be an incitement to error, when financial

hardships strike. We must always be careful.

Beware of Gossip: Their habit is to give away information of a private matter. Good friends have separated when confidential, and inappropriate material was discussed between those it was not intended for.

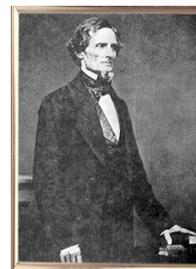
Enjoy Friendship: Keep It Honest With All Men.

Jamie Eitson, Chaplain

Famous Confederate Quotes

From the American Revival

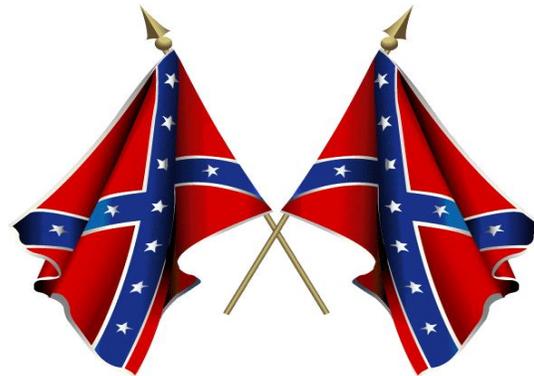
I tried all in my power to avert this war. I saw it coming, for twelve years I worked night and day to prevent it, but I could not. The North was mad and blind; it would not let us govern ourselves, and so the war came, and now it must go on till the last man of this generation falls in his tracks, and his children seize the musket and fight our battle, unless you acknowledge our right to self government. We are not fighting for slavery. We are fighting for Independence, and that, or extermination. President Jefferson Davis, Confederate States of America.



Don Loyd
Michael Pepper

David Palmer
Eddie Pricer

Our apologies if we missed any one and our thanks to all the others and their families who stopped by to cheer us on and provide us with anything we might need.



Special Thanks

The Upshur County Patriots wish to thank all of those who participated in the recruiting efforts and making our Sons of Confederate Veterans booth a success. Special mention to those who helped staff the booth and worked the grounds greeting and recruiting prospective Compatriots:

Ben Adkison
Mark Davis
Phil Davis
Larry Harper
Archie "Otter" Hass
Sam Mercer
John "Smitty" Smith

Eugene Brown
Kim Duffey
John Hitt
Clint Kerr
George Linton
Bill Starnes

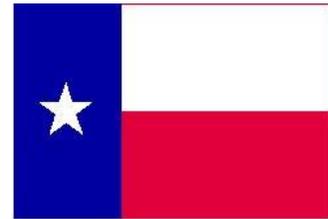
Please remember to donate canned goods and non-perishable items for our Christmas boxes. Your donations can help a needy family have a better Christmas.



Editor's Note: For most of East Texas, Whitetail Deer season begins on November 7. We should all make sure our gear is sound and our rifles true. Let's be mindful of game laws and courteous to others enjoying the woods this fall. And above all, be safe!



3rd Lt. Commander Bill Starnes, Upshur County Patriots, presenting Camp Commander Joe Reynolds, 1st Lt. David Richard Reynolds, with a \$500.00 check as a donation of start-up of a new SCV Camp.



We had a good turnout for the Yamboree Parade 2015. Thanks to all who participated.



Hadden's Sandwich Shop

101 W. Tyler St.

Gilmer, Texas

A big thank you to Jason and Valerie Roberts, owners of Hadden's Sandwich Shop, for graciously allowing us to hold our monthly meetings at their establishment.

