



Patriots Periodical

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

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COMMANDER'S CORNER

by Eddie "Spook" Pricer



I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and took the time to hold their loved ones close. Time flies by so quickly and yet another year has come and gone. I saw many amazing strides in science and medicine. Callously, I witnessed many acts of stupidity, arrogance, contempt and disregard for humanity. Fortunately, for myself, I am surrounded by people who cling steadfastly to the ideals of honor, chivalry and God.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans this past year has yet again stood tall and fought skirmishes and battles on many fronts in defense of our heritage. Some of our actions have amounted to simple standing shoulder to shoulder in a public forum to be seen and heard. Often the pen was used to sway opinion and occasionally we found ourselves in the legal arena making our stand in Court.

Although to the casual observer, our activities in honor, chivalry and God along with the defense of our heritage, seem self-serving and antiquated. On one plain, they are self-serving and antiquated. On the other plain, all too often missed by our fellow citizens is that each time we fight in defense of our heritage, we fight for the personal freedoms that our Country, both of them, were originally founded.

I was blessed to attend several gatherings during December. I had the honor of sharing stories, food, the Christmas Spirit and fellowship with the best people in the World. Although, I still shake my head at the idiocy occurring in America when watching the news, my kinship with my fellow compatriots and their families during the Christmas Season has rekindled and renewed my spirit to continue the fight in 2015. I look forward to and pray for more amazing strides in science and medicine this year and cautiously hope that sanity

will return to those that have forgotten or wantonly discarded the ideals that once made us great.

"There are things in the old Book which I may not be able to explain, but I fully accept it as the infallible word of God, and receive its teachings as inspired by the Holy Spirit."

Robert E. Lee

The Guardian

by Phil Davis

I hope all of you had a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. With a brand new year ahead of us I hope those of you that are not Guardians will re-evaluate and take a step forward and get into the Guardian Program. You will find a feeling of commitment and pride that you never felt before.

This Month's article will be about that commitment. One of our own, along with his wife has gone that extra mile in showing their caring and dedication to our ancestors and the Cause. George and Esther Linton after numerous years of searching for Pvt. Edward Terry's final resting place, George's GG Grandfather, they found eight graves on a hill deep in former Terry property that turned out to be Edward Terry, his wife and children. The graves were marked by rocks for headstones.

George started cleaning the grave sites and surrounding area. Since finding his ancestors he has erected a fence and a sign to mark the cemetery. In a short period of time he has obtained and placed a VA issued Confederate headstone, as well as other

headstones to mark three of the other seven graves. He plans to mark the other four graves next year.

Terry Cemetery is located in Frog Level, Miller County Arkansas. To get to it you go into Louisiana for about ten seconds and then enter Arkansas. Before you arrive at the cemetery you will travel dirt roads and wind up on what I call a “pig” trail. Then you walk through the woods up a hill and arrive at Terry Cemetery. It is in a very peaceful and beautiful setting. Included with this article are before and after pictures of Terry Cemetery.

Your Commander Eddie Pricer and I were honored to help George build the fence and assist with some of the cleanup. Others that helped George and Esther were Joe Linton, George’s brother and Jerry Rollins, George’s cousin, and his wife Terri. We all had a great time and George treated us to a fish dinner on every trip that we made. Eddie and I would get to hankering to eat fish, so we would call George and remind and encourage him that it was time to make another trip. (In fact we think it is time to make another trip to check on our work)

George has adopted this grave into the Guardian Program and has been approved as a Full Guardian, with Wilderness status. George will receive the Wilderness Silver Star for his medal.

George is to be commended for his willingness and determination in this project. (I imagine, actually I know for a fact, that Esther had a lot to do with it).

There are more pictures of Terry Cemetery posted on our web site.

As I always say, I believe with all my being in the Guardian Program and I hope that in some way I can convince you of its importance in fulfilling “The Charge”. As always I leave you with this question-

Are You A Guardian?

If Not Why Not?



Terry Cemetery – Before



Terry Cemetery – After

UPCOMING EVENTS

Confederate Hero’s Day Celebration

Saturday, January 17th

Muster at 11:00 a.m.

Location, Longview Courthouse, 101 East Methvin

Street, Longview, Texas

Ceremony begins at 12:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, January 6th, at 7:00 p.m.

Walking S Steakhouse

Hwy 852, Gilmer, Texas

Speaker for our January meeting will be Archie "Otter" Hass on his family and Cherokee connections.

UPSHURPATRIOTS.ORG

This month the following changes have been made to our web site: <http://www.upshurpatriots.org>

- I've added pictures of our December events, to include our Christmas Party.
- I've added new biographies of some of our honored ancestors, however I'm sure that there are many more of you that have information on your ancestor to share.

If you have any suggestions, recommendations or comments you can send me an email to: Joe.Reynolds@upshurpatriots.org and I promise to give it my full consideration.

UPSHUR COUNTY PATRIOTS CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

Since its inception in June of 2006, the Upshur County Patriots Camp #2109 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans has participated in a number of community projects in their efforts to enlighten the public on the background of the organization, as well as its goals and objectives. The group works to educate and preserve history through research, instructional programs and small group dialogues.

Although preservation of history and imparting it to others is at the core of Camp activities, the Patriots strive to help others in many different ways. One of these is the Christmas Food Drive to help a few families who are struggling to make ends meet. The Patriots began their Christmas Food Drive project 5 years ago at the behest of one of its members, the

late H.C. "Boogie" Feagin. He had been through some tough times over the years, but had found solace and strength in his faith, family and friends.

Boogie spearheaded the effort to raise funds and collect food donations and the Camp, through his stewardship, was able to help a small number of families each Christmas for three years until his death. He was so passionate about helping others, that he brought families into his home until they could get on their feet and would spend his Christmas money on those less fortunate to see that they had a proper meal or something under the Christmas tree. Boogie was a true believer of given unto others.

Last year, without Boogie, the Camp worked along other avenues to help those less fortunate. However, there was a void in the hearts of the membership and it was decided that this year the Patriots would again collect food donations and continue the Christmas Food Basket ministry begun by the late Boogie Feagin in his honor. The H.C. "Boogie" Feagin Memorial Christmas Food Basket Ministry was again a success based on the smiles and tears of joy from those receiving a helping hand. Those families that received baskets this year and in the past, were primarily referred to the Patriots by area clergy and represented a diverse cross section of the community.





MINORITIES IN THE CONFEDERATE MILITARY

The attached is a presentation given by Teresa Roane, Archivist at the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond, Virginia to Lt. F.C. Frazier Camp 668, Sons of Confederate Veterans; High Point, North Carolina; August 2013.

She has graciously given permission to publish it.

Minorities in the Confederate Military: Combat Support

from a presentation given by Teresa Roane, Archivist at the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond, Virginia

to Lt. F.C. Frazier Camp 668, Sons of Confederate Veterans; High Point, North Carolina; August 2013

Reprinted from their newsletter "From the Commander's Tent," September 2013, Pages 9-11

Let me take this opportunity to thank the Lt. F. C. Frazier SCV Camp and Laura Wesson OCR ladies for inviting me to share my presentation - "Minorities in the Confederate Military: Combat Support". Thank you for my certificate and book. I also want to congratulate all the recipients for receiving SCV awards. What a special night for

Miss Mattie! I am glad that I witnessed the honors bestowed upon her. She is an inspiration for having the tenacity to prove her father's service in the Confederate military.

It all started in a Mexican restaurant over Margaritas! The conversation turned to whether there were Black Confederates. The man said no and with a dismissive tone added, "Well, they were teamsters, musicians and body servants, but they were not in the military. I mean they were never on any muster rolls and they never got paid. I know this to be true because a historian with a Ph.D told me this at a Civil War roundtable presentation." I was incensed and we had a heated conversation. Historians systematically have tried to erase or suppress this history for decades, but yet it cannot be denied. Published books about it exist but the majority of modern historians have dismissed the evidence. The main issue is how one defines the Cause of the War Between the States. Modern historians ascribe the Cause to simply Slavery. This is the only War in human history that has one cause. If the War was about slavery, then how can People of Color who served in the Confederate military fit this narrative? Historians will respond that the men and women were forced. It is true that many were impressed. However, the conscription act will draft many into service with the Confederate military as well as the Union. The next argument is if these men wore a confederate uniform, then they were passing for White. That conclusion does not work because the Appomattox parole list records the complexion of the men went from light to dark.

However let us go back to the argument about muster rolls and payment. The compiled Confederate service records located at the National Archives consist of information from muster rolls. Years ago one had to go to Washington, DC or perhaps examine copies of the records from a state archives. Nowadays, the website service Fold3 has

made the information accessible to the public. I asked my intern this summer to use key words such as: Negro, Colored, Free, slave and mulatto in the search engine. She found nineteen pages of names listed below. There are more, because if one carried a musket, most of the time race, now referred to as ethnicity was not recorded on muster rolls. One must examine census records and pensions to find the service documents.

The reason that I have these names is because of the role of the Quartermasters. They had great handwriting which I love as an Archivist. Their records are easy to read and they are the bean counters for the military: Quartermaster recorded the reasons for pay. It was very important to keep track of the salaries of the combat support in the military. Why? They were paid more than the Privates. For example: Fortification workers made \$15.00 per month, assistant Cooks also made \$15.00 while Chief Cooks earned \$20.00 per month. Laundresses were paid \$10.00 to \$11.00 as a base pay and then they charged for each piece of clothing that they washed. The proof can be found on pay rolls at any archives that contained Confederate Quartermaster records. Please note that a portion of the salary went to the owners of the enslaved; however extra duty pay went directly to the person who did the work. Free People of Color received the same pay as the owners. Privates made \$11.00 per month. One service record intrigued me- George Washington, a Colored Porter earned \$30.00 per month. Confederate Congress increased his pay to \$40.00! How interesting! Let me repeat one more time that a Private earned \$11.00 per month.

Colonel Greg Eanes, an Iraqi war veteran is currently working on a book about Black Confederates in Virginia. He contacted me and shared that he found Confederate military discharge papers on Fold3. He discovered that papers were

the same for White men, enslaved and Free People of Color. How much more evidence is needed? Modern historians can no longer deny the primary documents or perhaps the issue is understanding the logistics of the military.

In conclusion, help me to understand why is it that that Men of Color who served in the United States Colored Troops who had the same military occupation specialty such as musicians, cooks and body servants as their Colored Confederate counterparts are considered to be soldiers while the Confederates are not? It would appear that a reappraisal of People of Color's role in the Confederacy deserves the respect as their USCT counterparts. The Confederate military recognized the skills and were willing to compensate their combat support personnel. In the early 20th century, all the former Confederate States provided provisions of these people's service by granting them pensions.

NECROLOGY

Compatriots,

It is with deep sadness that I report the death of Compatriot Ron Casteel. Ron Casteel was a veteran news journalist as well as a producer. He was responsible for many SCV productions including Frank and Jesse James, Ashes and Graves. Ron served in many positions in the SCV, including Chief of Staff and Lieutenant Commander in Chief.

I ask each of you to lift up his devoted wife Dianne and the rest of the Casteel Family in prayer in this difficult time.

Ron will be missed!
Deo Vindice!

Charles Kelly Barrow

Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Confederate Veterans

RACISM

by Clifton Palmer McLendon

The assumption that psycho cultural traits and capacities are determined by biological race and that races differ decisively from one another which is usually coupled with a belief in the inherent superiority of a particular race and its right to domination over others. [Definition taken from *Webster's Third New International Dictionary of the English Language Unabridged* (Chicago: Encyclopedia Britannica, Inc.; 1981)]

The Sons of Confederate Veterans have never shown any assumption that psycho cultural traits and capacities are determined by biological race and that races differ decisively from one another, nor have they shown any belief in the inherent superiority of a particular race and its right to domination over others. To the contrary:

The Sons of Confederate Veterans are the lineal successors to the United Confederate Veterans, which group was made up of soldiers and sailors who had fought for Southern independence from 1861 to 1865 – the same way their forerunners, and ancestors, had fought for American independence from 1776 to 1781. The mission of the Sons of Confederate Veterans is summed up in an excerpt from a speech given in New Orleans on 25 April 1906 by Stephen Dill Lee, Confederate lieutenant-general, and commander-in-chief of the United 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.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans have long condemned, and continue to condemn, use of Confederate symbols by any group advocating the supremacy of any ethnic group.

The Confederate States of America never advocated as a national policy anything resembling a belief in the inherent superiority of a particular race and its right to domination over others. That nation spent its entire four year existence battling for its survival. Moreover, several different ethnic groups contributed to its struggle for survival – among them, people of African, Asian, Hispanic, and Native American/Indian ancestry; various Christian denominations, Jews, and other religious persuasions.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans, both by definition and observed action, cannot logically be accused of racism.

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,*

Our Honored Ancestors

William Augustus White
Private

Co. A, 10th Georgia Regiment Infantry

William Augustus White was born in Georgia on October 20, 1837. On May 10, 1861 he enlisted as a private in Company A 10th Georgia Infantry at Columbus, Georgia for the duration of the war. The regiment captain was R.R. Haw's. He was sent to Camp Fairfield near Richmond, Virginia and in October he is listed as building officer barracks. It is said he was a carpenter by trade.

In the book I have there are reports of his clothing receipts, pay vouchers and various other records of his enlistment.

He evidently got lost from his company as there are reports of him being AWOL and as a deserter, but there is no record of any charges brought against him. Also my book refers to him as being a 2nd LT and 3rd LT during this time and being in the hospital on several occasions. He is also listed as being in Cobb's Legion Calvary and later he shows up back in Company A 10th Georgia Infantry and retained his rank of private.

In 1864 he is listed as being in Jackson Hospital near Richmond with a leg ulcer caused from a wound and then he is listed with ulcers of both legs. In November he is issued a certificate of Disability.

In 1865 he is detailed to the arsenal at Richmond, VA and stays there until the War is over. I have found no record of any battles that he was in, but since he was wounded I am sure that he was.

Not much is known of him after the war. It is said that he followed a soldier to Union, Mississippi. During his stay in Mississippi he met Amanda Emmeline Leach of Newton Mississippi and they were married in 1878. A memoir of Lucille Leach Henson states they were married on the second story balcony of her father's home. Amanda's father Robert T. Leach and her brother Thomas J. Leach were both in the war. Her father enlisted and was sent to Virginia to serve under General Lee but was returned home in 1862 because of his age (42) and family matters. Thomas J. after brief training in Union was sent to Vicksburg during the siege. On July 1, 1863 Thomas was killed at Vicksburg. He was a private in Company B Mississippi 8th Infantry.

Sometime between 1878 and 1907 William and Amanda came to Roberson County, Texas. In 1907 William A White applied for and received a Confederate Pension in the state of Texas. It is told that when they moved to the Pritchett area he was instrumental in starting the Lone Pilgrim Primitive Baptist Church near Pritchett. His granddaughter and great granddaughter still attend this church.

On April 21, 1917 William A. White died and was laid to rest at Pleasant Hill Cemetery near Pritchett. After his death Amanda applied for and continued to receive the Confederate Pension until her death in 1939. She is laid to rest by her husband in Pleasant Hill Cemetery. He has a Confederate marker and Southern Cross of Honor that the Upshur County Patriots dedicated on April 28, 2012.

"Had the cotton gin of Massachusetts inventor Eli Whitney not come on the scene in the late 1700's, African slavery in this country was most likely doomed. The antislavery and emancipation feeling in the South was ascendant, but thwarted by profitable slave-trading and hungry cotton mills in

New England which gave rise to more plantations in the South, and the perpetuation of slavery. And after years of treating the American South as an agricultural colony, New England set out in 1861 to strip it of political power.”

Bernhard Thuersam- Director Cape Fear Historical Institute NC.

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.

WHOSE FLAG IS IT ANYWAY?

By Mack McLendon

The flag that we know as the Confederate Battle Flag was used by many (but by no means all) Confederate military units during the War for Southern Independence (1861-1865). It was the Confederate soldiers' flag, and they alone had the right to interpret its meaning.

When the War was over, the Confederate soldiers became Confederate veterans. They formed an organization known as the United Confederate Veterans. The Confederate Battle Flag was still their flag, and they alone had the right to interpret its meaning.

In 1896, since many of the Confederate veterans were aged, infirm, and dying off, the Sons of Confederate Veterans was formed as the successor organization to the United Confederate Veterans. The legacy and authority of the United Confederate Veterans was transferred to them over the next ten years. This transfer of power culminated in a speech given 25 April 1906 at New Orleans, Louisiana by Stephen Dill Lee, Confederate lieutenant-general, and commander-in-chief of the United Confederate Veterans, wherein he delivered the following 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. Remember: It is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations.

Since 25 April 1906, therefore, the Confederate Battle Flag has been the flag of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. They alone have the right to interpret its meaning. They have interpreted its meaning, and explained (repeatedly!) that meaning – and it is not hatred, nor is it bigotry.

No group preaching hatred, bigotry, or the supremacy of any ethnic group has a right to use the Confederate Battle Flag. All such uses are spurious and unauthorized.

Anyone other than the Sons of Confederate Veterans who uses or attempts to define the Confederate Battle Flag does so on grounds at best shaky, and any interpretation so given is questionable.

UNIT SPOTLIGHT

9TH TEXAS INFANTRY

By Tim Bell

(continued from last month)

The morning of December the 16th found Ector's brigade face-to-face with the General Commanding, John Bell Hood, who asked them to go to the right flank and drive back the enemy. They replied, "We will do it general!" Ector's men, along with Reynolds' Arkansas brigade, managed to check the victorious Yankees only so long but were not able to drive them back. Finding themselves almost surrounded, and with the last avenue of retreat about to be snapped shut, the two, small, beleaguered brigades, were forced to flee back through Franklin and Columbia to the Tennessee River.

The retreat was not orderly in any way. In the words of Lieutenant General A.P. Stewart, the corps commander to which Ector's brigade was assigned, "I do not deem it proper to attempt to decide where the line first yielded. It would seem, however, that when once broken it very soon gave way everywhere, and the whole army made for the Franklin Pike."

Compliments for the 9th Texas continued, in spite of the rout in Tennessee. Lt. Gen. Alexander P. Stewart, their corps commander, stated regarding

the conduct of Ector's brigade at Nashville "I have been told [Ector's brigade] were characterized by the usual intrepidity of this small but firm and reliable body of men." According to the Compiled Service Records, at least 9 men in the regiment were wounded and 16 men were captured during the Tennessee campaign. Doubtless, many more were killed or wounded, but due to incomplete records we do not have an exact casualty figure.

Spanish Fort

The end was near, but some of the worst fighting of the war was yet to come for the 9th Texas. French's small division, now roughly only 1,000 men, was sent to defend Mobile, where the 9th was assigned to the defenses at Spanish Fort. On April 8, Union troops under Gen. E.R.S. Canby, assaulted the lightly defended forts and lines of earthworks at Spanish Fort and Blakely, and rolled up the Confederates there. Hundreds were forced to surrender. Many simply fired one or two volleys, and ran for their lives, hopelessly outnumbered.

According to the Compiled Service Records, at least 14 men in the 9th Texas were wounded and 8 men were captured at Spanish Fort. What remained of the 9th Texas surrendered with the rest of Ector's Brigade at Meridian, Mississippi on May 4, and were paroled on May 11, 1865, under the command of Major James McReynolds. At the surrender, the 9th was consolidated into two companies, under the command of Capt. R. Milton Board of Company I, and Lt. J. Jenkins. There were just 8 officers and 79 men—a small fraction of the 1,018 men who had served with the 9th at one time or another.

At the surrender, the regiments there were required to surrender their arms as well as colors. Not so for the 9th Texas. Years after the war, Cpl. Logsdon noted that "C.P. Mathews cut the flag from the staff, crammed it into his shirt bosom, and brought it home with him. Charlie has the old flag yet (1909)."

Lt. Jenkins was noted to have retrieved the flag-staff.

Post-War

There were several notable events after the war that involved former members of the 9th Texas. Sam Bell Maxey, who rose to the rank of Major General in the Confederate army, became a U.S. Senator after reconstruction. His service in the Indian Territory came in handy as a U.S. Senator, as he spent a great deal of his time in the senate on Indian relations. He, along with ex-Confederate postmaster John Reagan and Roger Quarles Mills, ex-Colonel of the 10th Texas Infantry, were respected members in the U.S. Senate from the 1870's to the 1890's.

William Hugh Young, minus the foot he lost at Allatoona, became an attorney and practiced law until his death in San Antonio in 1901. Most of the men returned to their pre-war occupation of farming to make a living. Captain Board returned to McKinney, Texas, where he remained for the next 60-plus years of his life, operating his freight and mercantile business. He finally 'crossed the river' on April 10, 1931, at the ripe old age of 93, one of the last of the veterans of the old 9th Texas.

Perhaps the last survivor of the old 9th Texas was a man who at one time called Lamar County home. William H. Wooldridge, who had been born in Illinois in 1840, fought for almost three years in Company A. He was discharged from the service in March, 1864, and returned home to Lamar County, where he got into a fight with his brother-in-law, William L. Ferrel, who he shot and killed in February, 1866. Wooldridge then moved to Stonewall County, where he was a justice-of-the-peace and later a Stonewall County Commissioner. It is said that in his late 80's, he married a "mail-order bride", who turned out to be in her late 70's. The marriage did not last long. Wooldridge wrote in the Paris Press in the early 1930's, pleading with

any of his old comrades, if any were alive, to help him secure a Confederate pension, as his health had failed and he was in dire straits financially. Wooldridge died on New Year's Day, 1936, at the ripe old age of 95.

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"Let us go home and cultivate our virtues."

Robert E. Lee, addressing his soldiers at Appomattox