



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

©COPYRIGHT 2025

Meetings are the 1st Tuesday of
Each Month at 7 PM
at the Historic Upshur Museum
www.upshurpatriots.org

JANUARY 2025

*"As the old year makes way for the new,
remember that you are the author of your
own story."*

As we say goodbye to the past, let's welcome the future with open hearts and minds. As the old year fades away, the dawn of 2025 brings a new sunrise of possibilities. Embrace it with open arms and a heart full of determination.

"You aim to correct false representations, maintain the truth, and render what aid you can to those who suffered and sacrificed in defense of the homes and firesides of the Southland in times which tried human souls. You represent the devoted Southerners who supported the noble struggle for liberty and independence, driven to such struggle by the thunder of events, sustained by sublime faith in the righteousness of the cause and devotion to the principles for which they stood. No decent individuals should offer criticism for that attitude."

Confederate Magazine January 1930



CAMP LEADERSHIP
UPSHUR COUNTY
PATRIOTS CAMP #2109

COMMANDER
DAVID PALMER
(903) 237-8941
goyal@etex.net

1ST LT. COMMANDER
JERRY AKIN
(832) 434-6318
jerrypakin@gmail.com

2ND LT. COMMANDER
RODNEY LOVE
(903) 733-0932
snakeman@aol.com

COMMANDER EMERITUS
PHIL DAVIS
(903) 790-7137
pdavis37@etex.net



FIRST METHODIST
CHURCH
MARSHALL, TEXAS



December 10, 2024

“At 1:16 (a.m.), we got the call that the alarm system at the daycare had gone off and it called in. So, at the same time, a burglar alarm had dropped, which prompted a police officer down here. When he drove up, he saw smoke,” Marshall Fire Department Fire Marshal Scott Barmore said. “The battalion chief showed up. I was called at 1:20 a.m., and it went out for an all call, which means everybody needs to come in. ESDs started showing up right after my arrival.”

Organized prior to 1845, the church held its meetings in a schoolhouse until 1853, when it moved to a converted building. The present site was acquired in 1860, and the building was completed in 1861. The style chosen reflects the popularity and

persistence of Greek Revival forms in mid-nineteenth century Texas. Litigation marred the church's first years; because the war disrupted the local economy, the contractors were unpaid until 1868.

Confederate President Jefferson Davis convened in 1862 a series of annual conferences of governors from the Trans-Mississippi states. The first conference, to discuss organization, defense, and administration of this critical area was held at First Methodist. A large audience gathered to hear Texas' Governor Lubbock, Missouri's Governor Jackson, and the representatives from Arkansas and Louisiana.

On March 10th, 1860, the congregation decided to build the new church. Construction commenced with the awarding of contracts on July 6th, 1860, to Mr. Alexander Pope and Mr. Bullington Smalley. Mr. Pope was awarded one contract for the foundation and walls of the building and a second contract for the construction of the four columns in the front portico. Mr. Smalley was awarded the contract for the woodwork. The contractors agreed to accept subscriber's notes in settlement for the work and materials and the notes were secured by liens on the property.

Although the construction of the building experienced many difficulties, the completion of the original building was an amazing feat. It was built with red bricks that were hand-formed at a location close to the construction site and the bricks were sun-dried. The bricks were made by slaves and were composed of Marshall red clay.

The motif of four large, square and tapered columns has been preserved in each of the additions that have been made to the sanctuary over the 145 years that it has been in use. After the foundation and brickwork on the four walls was nearly completed, a severe storm hit Marshall, and the west wall collapsed. The trustees agreed to reimburse A. Pope the damages in the sum of \$822.00 to reclaim the bricks and rebuild the wall. Upon completion, the total cost of the new sanctuary building was \$14,294.30.

historic-structures.com

The Marshall News Messenger, October 22nd, 1961, in its reprint during the centennial of the Civil War noted that it was "one of the largest and handsomest edifices in Eastern Texas."

"This is a big loss. This is our home. It's our church home. I've been here for just a few years, but it's quickly my home and my wife. A lot of people have been here for- we have 6th and 7th generation members here at this church and so it's really a home. It's a part of Marshall's history too, though," said Pastor David Luckert. The memories are there, the baptisms that were in there, the weddings that were in their, the funerals that were in there, the worship ceremonies that were in there, the lives that have been touched, the youth ministry there, the children's ministry there, the adult ministries there, I mean so many things have happened, tens of thousands of people," said Luckert.

Footnote: This has been Editor's Family Church for over a century.



THE GUARDIAN

Sons of Union Veterans is the successor organization to the Grand Army of the Republic, the organization that pushed for the creation of what we now call Memorial Day. Similarly, the Sons of Confederate Veterans picked up the mantle from the United Confederate Veterans, which was instrumental in marking the graves of Confederate dead.

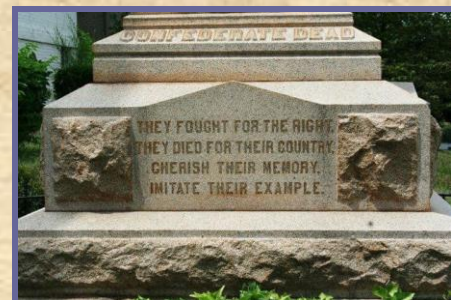
Each of these groups has started a graves database:

Sons of Union Veterans [National Graves Registration Database](#) and the [Confederate Graves Registry](#).

The SCV Guardian Program honors the Fallen.

"If you're not a Guardian, why not?"

Contact Guardian Program Chairman Bill Elliot for information at: etaia@att.net





UPSHUR
CO. PATRIOTS
GUARDIANS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Guardian Status</u>	<u>Number of Graves</u>
Phil Davis	Full	31
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
Rodney Love	Full	51

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.





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.

On June 23, 1864, Lee was appointed a lieutenant general, making him the youngest man to reach the rank in the Confederate Army. He took command of General John B. Hood’s former corps within the Army of Tennessee.

GOD HAS A PURPOSE FOR YOUR PAIN, A REASON FOR YOUR STRUGGLES AND A REWARD FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS.

Don't give up!

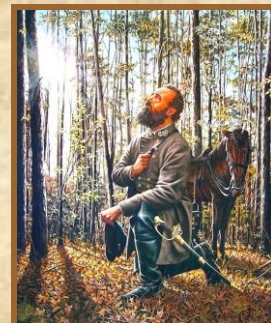


“The Lord will keep you from all harm— he will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.”

Psalms 121:7-8

When we are going through great suffering, it rarely seems either “light” or “momentary” to us. Rather it seems that our troubles will never end and that we will be crushed completely. *Christians “see” something that others don’t see. We “see” beyond this life to a life to come. We understand that no matter what we endure now, there awaits for us an “eternal glory” that far outweighs what happens to us in this life.*

“That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day”,,,2 Corinthians 4:16.



LUCKY WINNER

This year saw the Upshur County Patriots Camp hosting a fund-raising drive to benefit the National Museum in Columbia, Tennessee.

For those who chose to make donations, we offered a prize to one lucky person. The prize was a \$500.00 gift card. The recipient was Jessica Collamati of Bridgton, Maine. She was notified by phone and her winnings were mailed to her. The winning ticket was drawn by Juany Ibarra of Gilmer.



HISTORICAL EVENTS IN JANUARY

1861

January 2 - South Carolina troops seize Fort Johnson in Charleston Harbor

January 3 - Georgia state troops seize Fort Pulaski

January 4 - Alabama state troops seize the U.S. Arsenal at Mount Vernon, Alabama

January 5 - U.S. Senators from seven Southern states meet in Washington, D.C. to discuss secession

January 6 - The state of Florida seizes the Apalachicola Arsenal

January 10 - Florida adopts an Ordinance of Secession

January 20 - Mississippi state troops seize Ship Island in the Gulf of Mississippi

January 24 - Georgia state troops seize the U.S. Arsenal at Augusta

1862

January 10 - Engagement at Middle Creek, Kentucky

January 18 - The Confederate Congress votes to formally organize the Confederate Territory of Arizona

January 19 - Battle of Mill Springs (Logan's Cross Roads), Kentucky

January 22 - Bombardment of Fort Henry, Tennessee by USS *Lexington*

1863

January 2 - The Battle of Stones River concludes

January 9 to 11 - The Battle of Arkansas Post (Fort Hindman), Arkansas

January 12 - Skirmish at Lick Creek, Arkansas

January 22 - Union Major General Ambrose Burnside's "mud march" ends in failure

January 25 - Burnside relieved of the command of the Army of the Potomac and replaced with Major General Joseph Hooker

January 31 - Confederate ironclads temporarily break the blockade in Charleston Harbor

1864

January 12 - Francis Preston Blair Sr. attempts to negotiate peace with Jefferson Davis

January 13 - Second attack on Fort Fisher, North Carolina begins

January 15 - Fort Fisher stormed

January 31 - U.S. House passes 13th Amendment abolishing slavery





Mount Vernon Arsenal named one of "11 Most Endangered Historic Places"

civilwardaily.blogspot.com

On January 4, 1861, the Southern states continued to prepare themselves for independence. In Alabama, state troops seized the U.S. Arsenal at Mount Vernon (some 30 miles north of Mobile).

With a history dating back to 1828, the Mount Vernon Arsenal was a unique horseshoe-shaped complex that featured a primary arsenal building, barracks, workshops, officers' quarters, stables and other structures. The entire complex was enclosed by a strong brick wall and had served as a major source for small arms during the Creek War of 1836 and the Second Seminole War (1835-1842). In addition to being a major depository for weapons, the arsenal also was a manufacturing point for small arms ammunition. As such, it was of critical importance to Alabama as that state moved closer to secession from the Union.

Having received intelligence from Washington that the U.S. Army was considering moving additional troops to the Mount Vernon Arsenal and forts at Mobile Bay, Governor A.B. Moore of Alabama ordered state militia forces to take possession of the posts. Alabama forces

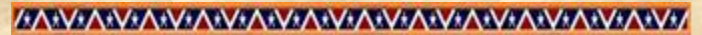
arrived at the gates of the arsenal at dawn on January 4, 1861.

The following report was filed by Captain Jesse Reno, the U.S. Army officer commanding the arsenal, to Captain William Maynadier of the Ordnance Bureau in Washington, D.C.:

"SIR: I have the honor to inform you that this arsenal was taken possession of by four companies of volunteers from Mobile at daylight this morning. I did not make, nor could I have made, any resistance, as they had scaled the walls and taken possession before I knew anything about the movement.

The governor has demanded all the public property, and his men now have entire possession of the arsenal.

...As it was impossible for me to hold this place with my seventeen men, I trust that the Department will not hold me responsible for this unexpected catastrophe."



**ARKANSAS
POST (1863)
FORT
HINDMAN**

battlefields.org

The Battle of Arkansas Post, also known as the Battle of Fort Hindman, was a combined land-river assault by Union forces on the Confederate Fort Hindman, which loomed over a bend in the Arkansas River near the town of Arkansas Post. As the

Union advanced down the Mississippi River passed the mouth of the Arkansas, the presence of Fort Hindman outflanked the Federal forward positions.

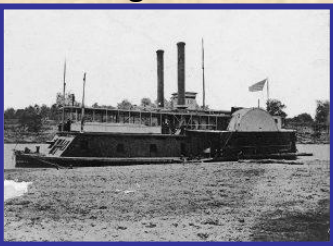
Confederate ships used the Fort as a base to launch vexing raids on Northern shipping, culminating in the embarrassing capture of the *Blue Wing*, a supply ship laden with munitions meant for general William T. Sherman's command. To intensify the problem, throughout the final months of 1862 rumors abounded that a powerful new Ironclad was being built at Little Rock.

The defense of Arkansas Post fell to Confederate General Thomas Churchill, a



talented commander who had directed a devastating flank attack at the Battle of Richmond, Kentucky the year before. He now led a force of some 5,000

men, mostly dismounted Texas cavalry. Fort Hindman was strongly built, and Churchill further augmented the defenses with rifle pits and trenches on land and log pilings and range targets in the river. The Union flotilla steamed into staging areas a few miles away from the fort on the evening of January 9. The gargantuan attacking force finally completed its



debarcation the next morning under the eyes of Churchill's scouts. The size of the Union expedition

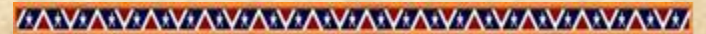
was most unexpected. Upon receiving the report, Churchill urgently wired theater commander Theophilus Holmes to ask for instructions. Holmes wired back "to hold

out until help arrived or until all were dead."

The Union force renewed the assault shortly after noon on January 11. The Confederate infantry put up a stubborn fight and drove the attackers to ground with musketry as they tried to advance across scrubby cleared fields. But Fort Hindman itself could no longer withstand the naval bombardment. Walls tumbled down and, one by one, guns flickered out of action.

By the end of the day, more than 4,700 Confederates were captured. Even though the Southern infantry fought well, inflicting more than a thousand casualties while suffering approximately seven hundred, there could only be scant defense against the combined-arms tactics that the Union Army and Navy had employed.

With the fort razed and the Arkansas River open, McClelland ordered a raid on Little Rock to commence before nightfall.





genealogytrails.com

The first railroad in Upshur County was the main line of the Texas & Pacific, which was extended west from Longview beginning about 1871, and passes through the southwestern portion of the county, its first station being Big Sandy. About the same time the old Tyler Tap Railway, a narrow gauge line, was built north from Tyler across the Sabine River into Upshur County to a connection with the Texas & Pacific, and a few years later was extended north to Mount Pleasant, reaching the latter place in 1878. This is now a part of the St. Louis Southwestern System. During the decade of the '90s the old Texas Southern, now the Marshall & East Texas, a portion of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas System, was constructed centrally through the county,

giving Gilmer a station at the junction of two roads. The original railways did much to stimulate the lumber industry in the county, and later have promoted development along other lines.

“As a man is said to have a right to his property, he may be equally said to have a property in his rights.”

—James Madison



THE GREAT SEAL

confederatecolonel.com

In its simplest terms, the Seal of The Confederate States of America depicts George Washington on horseback, surrounded by the principle crops of The South – tobacco, cotton, rice, sugar cane, corn, and wheat. The outside edge includes the date of the inauguration of Jefferson Davis as President of the C.S.A., and the motto *Deo Vindice*, which is usually translated as God will vindicate.

The seal was designed and created by Joseph S. Wyon in London, England. Mr. Wyon's engraving firm was engravers to Queen Victoria and makers of the Great Seal of England. The actual seal is comprised of a set of embossing dies made of silver which must be placed in its embossing press in order to be used. The embossed image is approximately 3.6 inches in diameter.

When the Seal was completed, it was delivered to James Mason, a confidential agent of the Confederacy in England. He selected Lieutenant R.T. Chapman of the Confederate Navy to bring it to America. In order to avoid the naval blockade, Lt. Chapman was forced to take a long and circuitous route. He went from England to Halifax, Nova Scotia, then to the Island of Bermuda and finally to Wilmington, North Carolina. When the Confederate Government evacuated Richmond in April of 1865, Mrs. William J. Bromwell, the wife of an official of the Confederate State Department, smuggled the Seal from the doomed city. Together with an important part of the Confederate archives, the Seal was hidden from Federal forces in a barn near Richmond. It eventually made its way into the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond, where it can be seen today.

Upcoming Events may be found on the Calendar at: 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, Commander/Editor goya1@etex.net



We are proud to be associated with the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

