

Patriot's Periodical
Upshur Co. Patriots Camp #2109
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Gilmer, Texas

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January 2018

Best Newsletter Award 2nd Place

**Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans
June 2017 Reunion**

Best Newsletter Award

**Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans
June 2016 Reunion**

COMMANDER'S CORNER

By Phil Davis



Compatriots and Ladies of the Upshur County Patriots Camp #2109, this will be the last time I address you as your Commander. We will install our new officers at the January meeting and they will immediately assume their responsibilities. I hope that you will welcome and give them the support that you have given me for the past two years.

These past two years have been an enlightening time in my life. I feel that our camp has accomplished many good things for the cause. None of this could have been

done, if it were not for your support and help. Our camp has led the Brigade in many areas. The one that I am most proud of is that we constantly lead the Brigade in activities. This means that we are a busy camp. Let's keep up the pace.

Milt Ojeman is our new Commander and with our help and support will do an excellent job. There will be a short transition period where he will be in a learning phase. All Commanders must go through this period. I have complete confidence in Milt and know he will make a good commander.

As I leave office, I once again wish to thank each of you, and I include the ladies, for the support you have given me. There is no one more important than **YOU** in our camp!

Best wishes and let's have a great New Year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Meeting

January 2, 2018 - 7 PM

Walking S Steakhouse

Swearing in of New Camp Officers

* All upcoming events can be viewed at our website on the events calendar.



From National Headquarters

The Sons of Confederate Veterans opposes the KKK and other racist organizations. The SCV condemns in the strongest possible way the actions, words, and beliefs of any racist group. These groups are filled with hatred and bigotry, and racism is counter to the American principles of freedom for all citizens. Neither white supremacists nor any other racist group represent true Southern Heritage or the Confederate Soldier, Sailor, or Marine. In like-manner, the SCV condemns the actions of the "Antifa" counter-protestors whose role was to meet violence with violence and to answer hate with hate. Particularly, the SCV condemns the Alt-Left's attempts to attack Confederate monuments and other war memorials in an attempt to tarnish the true history of our great nation and to further their modern socialist political agenda.

The SCV has a strict policy which forbids SCV members from associating with the Klan or any other racist organization. The SCV supports and promotes unity and respect. The U.S. is a nation of laws, and the SCV respects the Constitution our forefathers wrote and the government of our re-united country. There are no classes

of citizens and the SCV is no different. We expect and demand that all Americans respect each other's perspectives with civility, regardless of demographics.

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The Guardian

By Phil Davis

Chairman Texas Div. Guardian Program

Chairman National Guardian Program

Compatriots, we are beginning a new year and it is the time that we examine ourselves. We must honor our oath and pledge to the Cause and take on the duty of a Guardian. As I have explained to you before, it is not a hard task, but something we all can do for our Confederate Heroes.

If you have questions, I have answers. I am willing to help you in any way.

Our camp is doing well, but we can do better. Make a New Year's resolution to become a Guardian in 2018.

As I always say, I believe with all my being in the Guardian Program and it is my hope and prayer that in some small way you will be convinced of its importance, not only in fulfilling "The Charge" but in honoring your duty to your Confederate Forebears.

As always, I leave you with this question-

Are you a Guardian? If not, why not?



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	1
Larry Harper	Full	1
Jared Jones	Full	1
Justin Jones	Full	1
Chris Loyd	Full	5
George Linton	Full/W/GPT	40
Tommy Mitchell	Full	5
Eddie Pricer	Full/GPT	33
Milt Ojeman	Full/GPT	4
David Palmer	Full	1
Bill Palmer	Full	10
Tommy Ray	GPT	17
Bill Starnes	Full/W/GPT	7

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:

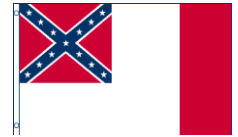
Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.



SALUTE TO THE CONFEDERATE FLAG:

I salute the Confederate Flag
With affection, reverence, and Undying devotion to the cause For which it stands.

"Fate is the course when men fail to act."



Charge to 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.



What Sort of New Year's Resolution Should a Christian Make

The practice of making New Year's resolutions goes back over 3,000 years to the ancient Babylonians. There is just something about the start of a new year that gives us the feeling of a fresh start and a new beginning. In reality, there is no difference between December 31 and January 1. Nothing mystical occurs at midnight on December 31. The Bible does not speak for or against the concept of New Year's resolutions. However, if a Christian determines to make a New Year's resolution, what kind of resolution should he or she make?

Common New Year's resolutions are commitments to quit smoking, to stop drinking, to manage money more wisely, and to spend more time with family. By far, the most common New Year's resolution is to lose weight, in conjunction with exercising more and eating healthily. These are all good goals to set. However, 1 Timothy 4:8 instructs us to keep exercise in perspective: "For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come." The vast majority of New Year's resolutions, even among Christians, are in relation to physical things. This should not be.

Many Christians make New Year's resolutions to pray more, to read the Bible every day, and to attend church more regularly. These are fantastic goals. However, these New Year's resolutions fail just as often as the non-spiritual resolutions, because there is no power in a New Year's resolution. Resolving to start or stop doing a certain activity has no value unless you have the proper motivation for stopping or starting that activity. For example, why do you want to read the Bible every day? Is it to honor God and grow spiritually, or is it because you have just heard that it is a good thing to do? Why do you want to lose weight? Is it to honor God with your body, or is it for vanity, to honor yourself?

Philippians 4:13 tells us, "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." John 15:5 declares, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." If God is the center of your New Year's resolution, it has chance for success, depending on your commitment to it. If it is God's will for something to be fulfilled, He will enable you to fulfill it. If a resolution is not God honoring and/or is not in agreement in God's Word, we will not receive God's help in fulfilling the resolution.

So, what sort of New Year's resolution should a Christian make? Here are some suggestions: (1) pray to the Lord for wisdom (James 1:5) in regards to what resolutions, if any, He would have you make; (2) pray for wisdom as to how to fulfill the goals God

gives you; (3) rely on God's strength to help you; (4) find an accountability partner who will help you and encourage you; (5) don't become discouraged with occasional failures; instead, allow them to motivate you further; (6) don't become proud or vain, but give God the glory. Psalm says, "Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun."



10 Interesting Civil War Facts

From: factretriever.com



Dr. Mary Walker

November 26, 1832 – February 21, 1919

1) Dr. Mary Walker served as a surgeon at a temporary hospital in Washington, DC. She was captured by Confederate forces after crossing enemy lines to treat wounded civilians and arrested as a spy. She was sent as a prisoner of war to Richmond, Virginia, until released in a prisoner exchange.

After the war, she was approved for the highest United States Armed Forces decoration for bravery, the Medal of Honor, for her efforts during the Civil War. She is the only woman to receive the medal and one of only eight civilians to receive it.

2) The Civil War was the bloodiest war ever fought on American soil. During an average day during the war, approximately 600 people were killed. By the end of the war, over 618,000 people had died. This is more Americans than WWI, WWII, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War combined.

3) One of every 65 Federals and 1 of every 45 Confederates were killed in action.

4) Virginia experienced the most fighting during the Civil War—more than 2,100 events, followed by Tennessee (1,400) and Missouri (1,100).

5) If the names of the Civil War dead were organized similar to the names on the Vietnam Memorial wall, the Civil War memorial would be over 10 times longer.

6) In the North, more than 1/3 of all men of military age served in the war. For the South, it was nearly 2/3.

7) Both the war's bloodiest day (Antietam) and its bloodiest battle (Gettysburg) occurred in Union states. More than 5,000 soldiers died at Antietam, making September 17, 1862, the single bloodiest day in U.S. military history.

8) After the Southern states seceded, both the United States and the Confederacy instituted the first ever national income tax. Ever since the Civil War, Americans have lived with the IRS.

9) The Civil War was the first time the national draft was used in American history (April 16, 1862).

10) The Civil War was the first time a submarine ever sank an enemy ship when the C.S.A. submarine the *Hunley* sank the *USS Housatonic*.



Historical Dates in January

January 3, 1861 Georgia Militia seizes Fort Pulaski.

January 6, 1861 Florida Militia takes over a federal arsenal near Apalachicola.

January 9, 1861 Mississippi secedes.

January 10, 1861 Florida secedes.

January 11, 1861 Alabama secedes.

January 19, 1861 Georgia votes to leave the Union.

January 26, 1861 Louisiana secedes.

January 1, 1863 The Emancipation Proclamation goes into effect.



Rosewood, Upshur County Texas

From: TSHA
G.H. Baird

Rosewood is on State Highway 154 eight miles west of Gilmer in western Upshur County. It was probably first settled in the late 1880s or early 1890s and was originally known as Double Springs. Its name was changed to Essex in 1891 when a post office was opened. In 1902 the name was changed again, to Rosewood. When the Marshall and East Texas Railways were built through the area around 1909, Rosewood became a station. In the years just before World War I the town was an important shipping point and commercial center for farmers and ranchers in western Upshur County. By 1914 Rosewood had Baptist and Methodist churches, two sawmills, four general stores, a bank, and an estimated population of 500. After the

railroad went out of business and was discontinued, Rosewood, like all other towns along the road, lost its importance as a commercial town. The bank was closed. The post office was discontinued and rural delivery established. The Rosewood school district is at present a part of the Harmony consolidated district, with the school building located just west of Rosewood on the Rhonesboro road. This is a fully accredited high school. They have a nice rock building, with all modern equipment, with a number of buses bringing high school pupils from the surrounding districts. By 1925 its population had fallen to 255, and in the mid-1930s it consisted of a school, several stores, one sawmill, and two churches. After World War II its school was consolidated with the Harmony school district, and by the mid-1960s all that remained of the town was two churches, a cemetery, and a few widely scattered houses. In 1990 Rosewood was a dispersed rural community with an estimated population of 100.



New Year's Day

From: history.com

The earliest recorded festivities in honor of a new year's arrival date back some 4,000 years to ancient Babylon. For the Babylonians, the first new moon following the vernal equinox, the day in late March with an equal amount of sunlight and darkness, heralded the start of a new year. They marked the occasion with a massive religious festival called Akitu (derived from the Sumerian word for barley, which was cut in the spring) that involved a different

ritual on each of its 11 days. In addition to the New Year, Atiku celebrated the mythical victory of the Babylonian sky god Marduk over the evil sea goddess Tiamat and served an important political purpose. It was during this time that a new king was crowned or that the current ruler's divine mandate was symbolically renewed.

The early Roman calendar consisted of 10 months and 304 days, with each New Year beginning at the vernal equinox; according to tradition, it was created by Romulus, the founder of Rome, in the eighth century B.C. A later king, Numa Pompilius, is credited with adding the months of Januarius and Februarius. Over the centuries, the calendar fell out of sync with the sun, and in 46 B.C. the emperor Julius Caesar decided to solve the problem by consulting with the most prominent astronomers and mathematicians of his time. He introduced the Julian calendar, which closely resembles the more modern Gregorian calendar that most countries around the world use today.

As part of his reform, Caesar instituted January 1 as the first day of the year, partly to honor the month's namesake: Janus, the Roman god of beginnings, whose two faces allowed him to look back into the past and forward into the future. Romans celebrated by offering sacrifices to Janus, exchanging gifts with one another, decorating their homes with laurel branches and attending raucous parties. In medieval Europe, Christian leaders temporarily replaced

January 1 as the first of the year with days carrying more religious significance, such as December 25 (the anniversary of Jesus' birth) and March 25 (the Feast of the Annunciation); Pope Gregory XIII reestablished January 1 as New Year's Day in 1582.

In many countries, New Year's celebrations begin on the evening of December 31, New Year's Eve, and continues into the early hours of January 1. Revelers often enjoy meals and snacks thought to bestow good luck for the coming year.

Customs that are common worldwide include watching fireworks and singing songs to welcome the New Year, including the ever-popular "Auld Lang Syne" in many English-speaking countries. The practice of making resolutions for the New Year is thought to have first caught on among the ancient Babylonians, who made promises in order to earn the favor of the gods and start the year off on the right foot. (They would reportedly vow to pay off debts and return borrowed farm equipment.)

In the United States, the most iconic New Year's tradition is the dropping of a giant ball in New York City's Times Square at the stroke of midnight. Millions of people around the world watch the event, which has taken place almost every year since 1907.



Photo by Raven Baker

Gilmer Christmas Parade 2017

birthday of Robert E. Lee—since its approval on January 30, 1931.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans and the United Daughters of the Confederacy sponsor the annual celebration of the holiday, which includes parades, reenactments in honor of past Confederate heroes, and other events.

In Texas, we honor our past and draw from it the courage, strength, and wisdom to go forward into the future together as Texans and Americans. The State of Texas has long recognized her Confederate history and the leaders who made sacrifices on behalf of the Confederate cause; and the Texans who served in the War Between the States are memorialized in almost every county in the state. Many cities and counties in the State of Texas bear the name of Confederate veterans and it is important for all Texans to reflect upon our state's past and to respect the devotion of her Confederate leaders, soldiers, and citizens to the cause of Southern liberty.

Confederate Heroes Day

Confederate Heroes' Day is recognized on January 19th and commemorates those who died fighting for the Confederate States of America during the American Civil War. January 19 is observed as a legal holiday in Texas to commemorate Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee, and other Confederate heroes. An official state holiday in Texas, Confederate Heroes' Day has fallen annually on January 19—the



Oak Hill Cemetery-Vicksburg, Ms.

Photos From the Upshur County Patriots Christmas Party 2017

Photos courtesy of M. and C. Bolding



ATM Commander Johnnie Holley



True Grandson and WWII Veteran
Bill Palmer (white sweater)



Camp Commander Phil Davis





My Flag, My Heritage, My Opinion

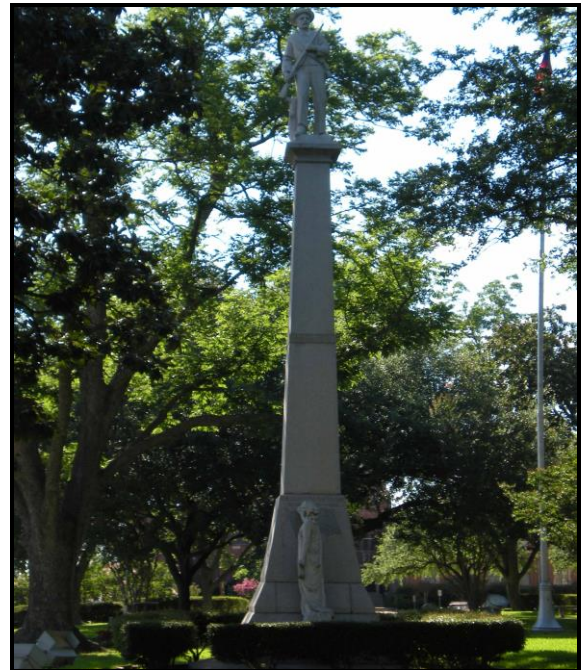
From: Confederate American Pride
Author Unknown

Our South, our Confederate history, and by extension, our Confederate battle flag, have suffered for many years from the relentless hatchet job of false propaganda heaped upon them by the news media, the education system, and, of course, Hollywood and television.

It appears that they wish to drive a wedge between Southern Blacks and Whites, much as the carpetbaggers did after the War for Southern Independence and much as the Northern news media drove a wedge between the North and South before the War. It is important to remember that movies such as *Roots* and *North and South* are make-believe, fiction. In other words, they are not true, just like *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, written before the War, was not true. One must wonder if the only reason such false propaganda is produced and promoted by the movie and television industry, is to make Blacks hate Whites, especially Southern Whites.

For example, the Confederate battle flag has no more to do with the Ku Klux Klan than the Christian cross which the Klan carries and burns or the flag of the United States that the Klan says the Pledge of Allegiance to, yet the news media and Hollywood constantly try to connect our Confederate flag to the Klan in their propaganda. However, the news media

never ask preachers if they are Klan members, because they wear a cross around their necks or link the American Legion to the Klan because they carry the U.S. flag. It is time to put an end to this anti-Confederate bigotry. It is past time that the truth was told. Hitler's tactic of "tell a big enough lie often enough and people will believe it" has been utilized to the fullest extent, to smear the Confederate States of America and her symbols such as the battle flag.



General John Gregg, C.S.A.

Confederate Heroes Day

Join us in celebrating Texas Confederate Heroes Day on Saturday January 20th at the Gregg County Courthouse Lawn. The program begins at noon.

"Approach the New Year with resolve to find the opportunities hidden in each new day."

History of the Black Eyed Pea Tradition

From: American Civil War Forum

The story of THE BLACK EYED PEA being considered good luck relates directly back to Sherman's Bloody March to the Sea in late 1864. It was called The Savannah Campaign and was lead by Major General William T. Sherman. The Civil War campaign began on 11/15/64 when Sherman's troops marched from the captured city of Atlanta, Georgia, and ended at the port of Savannah on 12/22/1864.

When the smoke cleared, the southerners who had survived the onslaught came out of hiding. They found that the blue belly aggressors that had looted and stolen everything of value and everything you could eat including all livestock, death and destruction were everywhere. While in hiding, few had enough to eat, and starvation was now upon the survivors.

There was no international aid, no Red Cross meal trucks. The Northern army had taken everything they could carry and eaten everything they could eat. But they couldn't take it all. The devastated people of the south found for some unknown reason that Sherman's bloodthirsty troops had left silos full of black eyed peas.

At the time in the north, the lowly black eyed pea was only used to feed stock. The northern troops saw it as the thing of least value. Taking grain for their horses and

livestock and other crops to feed themselves, they just couldn't take everything. So they left the black eyed peas in great quantities assuming it would be of no use to the survivors, since all the livestock it could feed had either been taken or eaten.

Southerners awoke to face a new year in this devastation and were facing massive starvation if not for the good luck of having the black eyed peas to eat. From New Years Day 1866 forward, the tradition grew to eat black eyed peas on New Year's Day for good luck."



Acoustic Music Night

Some of our Camp members and others perform an Acoustic Music Jam twice a month at the Walking S Steakhouse. This takes place every 2nd & 4th Thursday nights from 6pm – 8pm. Bring your instrument and join in or just come by for the music.



Monumental Dishonesty

Excerpts from an article

By Mark Pulliam

Monuments typically seek to connect us with the past by preserving the memory of someone or something of consequence—institutional history.

Remembering the past is not the same as celebrating it, but erasing the past dooms us to forget the lessons it offers—both good and bad.

Although the coverage in the media has dissipated, the craze for monument destruction has not abated. In recent years, Universities have begun renaming buildings and mothballing statutes recognizing Confederate-era figures that have fallen out of political fashion. The stated concern is that students with delicate sensibilities might be offended by a reminder of uncomfortable periods in history.

I suspect that the real motive for removing historical references is not to make the campus “inclusive,” or to provide students with a “safe space,” but rather of advancing identity politics—pitting people against one another based on group characteristics. Another factor is a simple desire on the part of the Left—now dominant in higher education—to exert its power. As John Davidson has noted, “the purpose of this relentless war on the past is not really to adjudicate America’s historical sins or educate the young about them, but to justify political force in the present day.”

If statues of Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee, and other Confederate-era figures are undeserving of display on campus because they are imperfect—too flawed to warrant the public recognition once felt to be appropriate—one has to ask: Do *any* of our heroes meet this lofty standard?



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



Thank you to the Starnes family and everyone at the Walking S Steakhouse for their hospitality and providing a meeting place for the Upshur Co. Patriots. Open for dining Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights.

Comments or suggestions should be made to: David Palmer, Editor
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