



# Patriots Periodical

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

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March 2016

## COMMANDER'S CORNER

*by Phil Davis*



Here it is, March already, and the warm months are just around the corner. As usual we will have many grave dedications in these upcoming months. There are some events already planned, which Compatriot Linton will tell us about. We also will have the July 4th parade in Ore City and maybe some new ones elsewhere. We as Patriots have supported these activities well in the past and I am sure that we can count on your support in the future. The more often we are out in front of the public, the more ground we gain in our fight to preserve our Southern Heritage.

Those of you that were in Jefferson in February for the Mardi Gras parade saw a very good turnout of spectators. They were cheering and saluting our beloved flags, many of them stood at attention to salute or they would place their hand over their heart in respect. I feel that we were very much appreciated and well received for

being a part of the parade. (We were the first float after the motorcycles) As always we threw beads, trying to get them to the little ones (Sometimes that is hard to do because the big ones get in the way). We owe a special thanks to those who supplied the beads. I won't try to name them as I may forget someone. One of our Patriots said he had never had such a good time as he had that day. The word is we are going to have even more beads next year. We had a very good turnout of SCV members coming from many camps in Texas and even some from Louisiana. It was a great sight to see our men (and Private Riley) marching, carrying Muskets and Flags followed by our "pink" trailer decorated with streamers and flags. The Southern Ladies aboard our float improved the beauty of it for us all.

Albert, as usual, walked the parade route and took pictures, which he does so well. We owe a big thank you to our friend Albert, for his dedication and service by always being there for us. Thank you Albert!!!

If you missed it, you missed a good time. (However, I won't tell you which of our Compatriots threw beads like little girls)

I leave you with this question, "Have you talked to some one about joining our camp or another SCV camp, this past month?" There are many ways to strike up a conversation. Tell them that you belong to the Sons of Confederate Veterans and what we are trying to preserve. A good lead in question is, "Were you born in the South and do you have any ancestors that fought for the South? " If they don't know, inform them of our available assistance in finding out and offer our help. Try it, it works. All they can say is "I'm not interested." Who knows, you may find a new friend.

We will see you on March 1<sup>st</sup>. Our program is once again by one of our own.

\*Give What You Can to Heritage Defense\*

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **NEXT MEETING**

March 1, 2016  
Meeting at 7 PM  
Walking S Steakhouse



### **The Guardian**

**By Phil Davis**

What is a Guardian and why am I a Guardian? Two simple questions, when answered will cause you to walk thru cemeteries, seeking out those buried in them that are our Confederate Heroes, as well as, any able bodied man that might have fought for the South. The visit to a cemetery has a whole new meaning since I have taken an interest in the Guardian Program and the final resting place of these Confederate Heroes. I find myself, going to the internet, looking at interments in cemeteries all over Upshur County and Texas; sometimes I even look out of state. It is an addiction, I don't want to lose!

As the Chairman of both the National and Texas Division Guardian Programs, when I receive an application, I try my best to put a flag on their chosen Confederate Hero. I do this on the Find A Grave website. If you have turned in an application in the past two years, look at "Find a Grave" and you

should find a Confederate Flag posted on your Soldier's biographical page. If I missed yours, please let me know and I will post it there. I have had plenty of practice this past month. The newly formed 1Lt David R. Reynolds Camp #2270 in Mount Pleasant , dropped 52 applications on me at one time. It was great, I love it! Their goal is to have a Guardian for every Confederate Hero in Titus County.

I must give a real big shout out to my friend and Past Commander Eddie Pricer for his greatly appreciated help in getting all of them logged in to my Guardian Program spreadsheet.

The above answers why I as well as others are Guardians. Now "what is a Guardian?" This answer is very plain and simple. A Compatriot, who of his own free will, seeks out a Confederate's final resting place, and vows to watch over and preserve this Hero's grave for as long as he is physically able. He will visit this site at a minimum of three times a year. He will place a Confederate Flag or a wreath on the grave at least once a year. Many Guardians keep their flags flying 24/7/365 days a year. In addition, he will see that the grave has a permanent marker indicating Confederate service. If you are not clear on what constitutes a permanent CSA marker or

what appropriate care of the gravesite entails, contact me.

These actions are only a drop-in a huge bucket compared to what they did for us Southerners. Would we do it today?

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?



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**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.





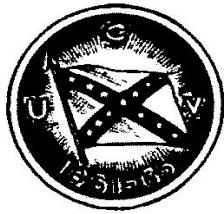
By Larry Harper

### A Different View

As a recovering Yankee who came to the South kicking and screaming, I arrived from the land of New York and New Jersey. I didn't expect to find much here, where I thought there would be attempts by writers to justify the unjustifiable, slavery. However to my surprise, I find that it was much more about preserving states rights and personal hearth and home, to these chaplains and the soldiers they served than it was about slavery. Only approximately 7% of the people of the South owned plantations and therefore slaves. Mostly common people fought against the North to stop them from destroying their country, farms, and families. To say it was the patriotic action to take mildly describes the devastation that was put upon the South. Some moved to South America, some tarried to the mountains of the northwest to try and forget what they had done and others tried to stay and still had to endure punishment

to rebuild the economy that once provided 80% of the revenue it took to finance our federal government. I was reminded of this scripture, (Joshua 5:14) where Joshua on a mission from God runs into a man set for battle (whom he worships without objection from the man, which suggests he really is a preincarnate form of Jesus). Joshua asks "Whose side are you on, ours or the enemy's? To which the man responds "neither". I am here as Commander of the Lord's Hosts". Only after they have gone through the terrors and tears of warfare can these chaplains understand and relate that God acts in ways that we cannot understand in this life. But the gift he gives all of us is wonderful, even in the midst of death. The gift, even Jesus the son of man came to serve and not to be served. So as our fore fathers left their homes, family and all to defend and serve and not to be served, being out-weaponed, out-fed, out-clothed, and out-numbered they fought to defend and to serve. Even as our military serves today let us honor all that defend and serve. We have been given a legacy to remember many times over. Let us seek and serve to honor the LORD JESUS CHRIST and these many SERVANTS. We ask it in HIS HOLY NAME, YESHUA.

AMEN and AMEN



**To you,  
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 he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Are you also ready to die for your country? Is your life worthy to be remembered along with theirs? Do you choose for yourself this greatness of soul?" . . .

"Not in the clamor of the crowded street,  
Not in the shouts and plaudits of the throng,  
But in ourselves are triumph and defeat." . . .

From a speech by  
Confederate Gen. Stephen D. Lee,  
presiding officer at the 16th Annual Reunion  
of the United Confederate Veterans,  
New Orleans, Louisiana,  
April 25th - 27th, 1906.

From: A Southern View of History

The South stood by their beliefs in the existing Constitution, in that it provided for state sovereignty. Southerners felt that they should be governed locally and that the federal government was an agent of the states, to be used to the advantage of all of the states. The South felt that Northern politicians were trying to create a strong centralized federal government. They felt that the North was trying to shift powers away from the states and to the federal government. The tendency toward a greater national power worried practical Southerners who, like Alexander H. Stephens, of Georgia, thought the strong government an instrument for sectional exploitation. *"All that we ask of you is - keep your hands out of our pockets,"* said Stephens.



Gen. Stephen D. Lee



Gen. Robert E. Lee





### Upshur Co. Patriots

### Cemetery Survey Committee

Chairman: Kim Duffey

During the month of February 2016, our Cemetery Committee met and surveyed the gravesites at the West Mountain (Phillips) Cemetery and the Morgan Cemetery, both in Upshur County. Graves of all War Veterans and Able Bodied Men of the era were documented. Thank you to everyone who helped with this important project.

The two photos below show the Morgan Cemetery in dire need of a clean up.



Morgan Cemetery

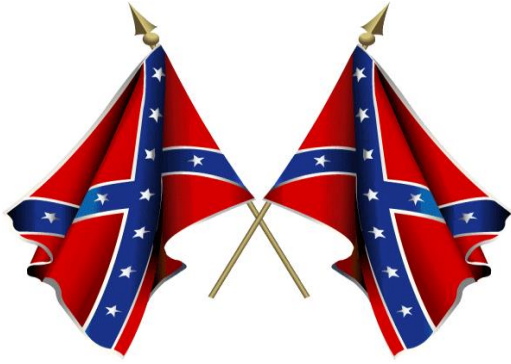
### Famous Confederate Quotes

From the American Revival

Our government is an agency of delegated and strictly limited powers. Its founders did not look to its preservation by force; but the chain they wove to bind these States together was one of love and mutual good offices ... – Jefferson Davis



Comments or suggestions should be made to: David Palmer, Editor  
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### Historical Dates in March

March 2, 1861 Texas is admitted to the Confederacy.

March 4, 1861 First National Flag is displayed.

March 6, 1862 Battle of Pea Ridge Arkansas.

March 8, 1865 Battle of Kingston, N.C.

March 11, 1861 Confederate Constitution is adopted.

March 19, 1865 Battle of Bentonville, the last significant attempt to stop General Sherman's invasion.



A photo from February 2, 1928 in Huntsville, Ala. depicting Confederate Veterans both white and black, honoring the Battle Flag.



Eddie Pricer being presented with Guardian Certificates at our February 2016 meeting. From L. are: Phil Davis, Sam Mercer, and Eddie Pricer.





Bruce Swinney giving a program about women in the Confederacy at our February 2016 meeting.



Jefferson Mardi Gras Parade February 2016



Jefferson Mardi Gras Parade February 2016



We had a very good turnout and perfect weather for this year's Jefferson Mardi Gras Parade February 2016. Thank you to all who took part.



We are proud to be associated with the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Order of Confederate Rose.