



Patriots Periodical

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

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April 2016

COMMANDER'S CORNER

by Phil Davis



As I pondered on what I would write for "The Commanders Corner" this month, I kept coming back to how proud I am of the members of our camp that have committed themselves to the Guardian Program and gone that extra mile in preserving the final resting places of our Confederate Heroes. As of this writing, Members of the Upshur County Patriots Camp #2109 are presently taking care of the graves of 138 Confederate Heroes. These actions demonstrate the dedication of our fellow compatriots and are admired by our Camp.

If you look at the cemetery rolls of Upshur County cemeteries, you will find listed many, many more Confederates buried in almost all of them. As Grave Committee Chairman Kim Duffey and his loyal assistants walk the cemeteries, one by one, we find the names of many Confederates, as well as those of able bodied men. The

work that Kim and his volunteers do in searching the cemeteries and filling out the Grave Registration Form is an endless task. The tedious searching of the internet to find information on both the Confederate Soldiers and able bodied men is mostly left up to our own, Esther Linton, who does a brilliant job. Hats off to the hard work of the Graves Registration Committee in this worthwhile endeavor.

On another note, have you thought about attending the Texas Division Reunion in Kerrville this year? We should have 6 delegates this year and it would be great to cast all 6 of our ballots. The date is June 3-5. There is more info on our website and also at scvtexas.org.

I leave you with this question, Have you talked to some one about joining our camp or another SCV camp, Well, Why not?

Give What You Can to Heritage Defense



Gen. Robert E. Lee

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT MEETING

April 5, 2016
Meeting at 7 PM
Walking S Steakhouse
"New London Disaster"

April 2

Camp Ford Living History
9 AM – 4 PM

April 9

Cemetery Memorial
Greathouse Cemetery
Mt. Pleasant 9 AM

April 16

Cemetery Memorial
Enon Cemetery Upshur Co.
10 AM

April 16

Cemetery Memorial
Old E. Mountain
1 PM

April 23

Cemetery Memorial
Mt. Pisgah Cemetery
10 AM

April 29

Jefferson School Days
River Park, Jefferson
9 AM – 3 PM

April 30

Jefferson Parade
9 AM Lyons Park



The Guardian

By Phil Davis

The Guardian Program is alive and well, growing with new guardians almost every week. I received number 500 in the mail yesterday. Texas Guardian applicants are trying my ability to keep up with the paperwork and everything else that is associated with the program. I mentioned last month how Eddie Pricer helped me out and maybe I will call on him again. Don't take it wrong, the program is doing exactly what I hoped it would do and I like it!

I have people frequently calling me wanting to get information on the Guardian Program. I try to make it available and as simple as possible: Select a Confederate's Final resting place, vow to take care of the grave for as long as you are physically able, visit it at least 3 times a year, insure there is a marker of some type showing Confederate service, and place a Confederate Flag on the grave at least once

* Directions for events may be found on the Upshur Patriots Website Calendar of Events

a year. There is nothing hard about it. Try it, you will like it!

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?



Commander Phil Davis, on L., presenting a Past Commander's Medal to Eddie Pricer at our March meeting.

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By Larry Harper

Can Faith Save Christians

This statement and others persuade some critics that James is teaching salvation through faith and works. Luther believed the epistle overemphasized works. James' teachings reflect neither a positive nor a negative response to Paul's teachings that faith practically equals salvation. James sees two kinds of faith; saving faith and professing faith. For Paul, justification is by faith. For James justification is a faith that works by a genuine faith that manifests itself in post conversion works. Before salvation, these Jews had believed in the importance of works. Now some were reacting at the opposite extreme, inferring that works played no part in the salvation experience. James responds that the kind of faith that does not produce works is not saving faith. Can merely professed but undemonstrated faith save? The scripture says faith without works is dead. A common Old Testament gospel usage involves

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:

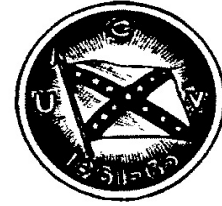
I salute the Confederate Flag With affection, reverence, and Undying devotion to the cause For which it stands.

demonstrating or showing something to be righteous; it is this usage that James follows. James, opposing merely nominal professing Christians seeks to show that true faith seeks to show itself by works of Love. James concludes with two examples of genuine faith; Abraham and Rahab. One a Jewish patriarch of great faith that was perfected by his works and the other, the lowest citizen of a Gentile city. Even her newfound faith was demonstrated by her works. There must be evidence of faith. This analogy shows that between the body and one's faith there must be the energizing element of works. The one without the other renders the opposite dead. So dear brothers let us follow our faith with the sort of works that honors the works of our forefathers. Bless you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ Amen.

April 12, 1861

The bloodiest four years in American history begin when Confederate shore batteries under General P.G.T. Beauregard open fire on Union-held Fort Sumter in South Carolina's Charleston Bay. During the next 34 hours, 50 Confederate guns and mortars launched more than 4,000 rounds at the poorly supplied fort. On April 13, U.S. Major Robert Anderson surrendered the fort. Two days later, U.S. President Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation calling for 75,000

volunteer soldiers to quell the Southern "insurrection."

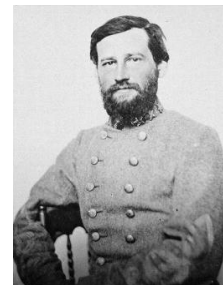


To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans . . .

. . . "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.



Gen. Stephen D. Lee

From: A Southern View of History

"One must remember that the South has its own distinct culture with its own special history, heroes, traditions and values. The South gave the world Southern architecture, authors, chefs, statesmen, musicians, painters and outstanding leaders in many fields. The Southerner maintained a special bond with the land and her people. The Southerner would demonstrate qualities of courage, devotion to duty, an indomitable spirit, a close attachment to home, family, state, nation and their firm belief in spiritual values."



Gen. Robert E. Lee



Color Guard Sergeant George Linton, on L., and Commander Phil Davis, on R., presenting medals to Color Guard members at our March meeting.

Famous Confederate Quotes

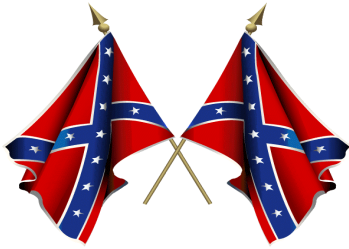
From: The American Revival

"I am with the South in life or in death, in victory or defeat. I never owned a negro and care nothing for them, but these people have been my friends and have stood up to me on all occasions. In addition to this, I believe the North is about to wage a brutal and unholy war on a people who have done them no wrong, in violation of the Constitution and the fundamental principles of the government...We propose no invasion of the North, no attack on them, and only ask to be let alone." Patrick R. Cleburne



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

April is designated as Confederate History Month by: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Virginia and Texas.

April 1, 1865 – Battle of Five Forks.

April 2, 1865 – Battle of Ft. Blakely.

April 2, 1865 – General Lee informed President Davis to evacuate the Capital in Richmond, Va.

April 3, 1865 – The Confederate Capital of Richmond surrendered.

April 4, 1865 – Battle of Jetersville.

April 6, 1865 – Battle of Sailor's Creek.

April 8, 1865 – Battle of Appomattox.

April 9, 1865 – Gen. Robert E. Lee surrendered at Appomattox.

April 12, 1861 – Gen. Beauregard fired on Ft. Sumter.

April 14, 1865 – President Lincoln was shot at Ford's Theater.

April 27, 1865 – The Sultana Steamship exploded killing nearly 2000 Union soldiers.



Compatriot Tommy Ray at our March meeting giving a presentation on food and food sources for the Confederate Soldier.

Confederate Humor

NO COUNTERSIGN... When food was scarce many soldiers would steal or pillage nearby farms for anything that could be converted to food or drink. One evening an Officer smelled roast pork, investigating he found a pig roasting over a camp fire and asked who the soldiers were that stole it. A Corporal came to attention and said "sir, I was on picket duty and when I heard a noise and I called out for the pass word. All I heard was oink and that is not the countersign so I shot him. We were just going to bring him to your tent for court martial and have you pass judgment on him. The Officer, suppressing a smile, said "bring only a part of him and I will pass a partial sentence."

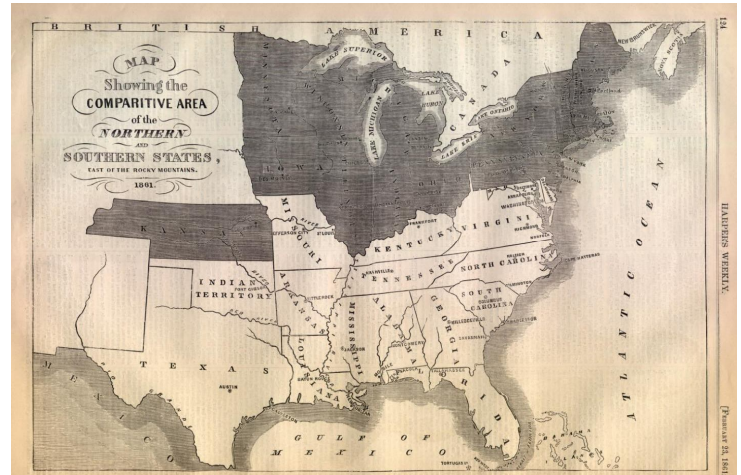


From: Removing Confederate Monuments
Would Edit History by: Kelsey Stein

As the debate about Confederate symbolism rages on, many are advocating the removal of Confederate monuments as the next step after flags come down from poles outside government buildings. But, before eradicating every monument that evokes the Confederacy, we should consider the effects of sanitizing history, said Pamela Sterne King, a University of Alabama assistant professor with a focus on public history and historic preservation. "You've got to be careful when you edit history." Monuments in public spaces were meant to be permanent structures that can teach visitors about a moment in history. King said "As a public historian, I'm really hesitant to remove permanent structures because they're controversial or because they evoke negative understanding. I'm always going to want to

keep public history intact in the public square."

Early Map of the Confederate States



The image above is one of the earliest known maps of the Confederacy. It was printed in February 1861, shortly after the secession of the southern states to form the Confederate States of America. The map appeared in the February 23, 1861 edition of Harper's Weekly. The map, for the first time, shows a nation divided; Divided, North and South, with the fate of Nations hanging in the balance. The Southern States are shown to be: Texas, the Indian Territory (Oklahoma), Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida....from: Son of the South.



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

2016 Texas Reunion

June 3-5, 2016

YO Ranch Resort and Conference Center
2033 Sidney Baker (TX Hwy 16)
Kerrville, TX 78028

2016 National Reunion

July 13-16, 2016

Renaissance Hotel
900 E. Lookout Dr.
Richardson, TX 75082

From Texas Division

Compatriots,

Over the last couple of years, there has been nothing but total disregard by the Texas Historical Commission towards the valiant Confederate Veterans. From the lowering of the flags at Mexia to the pulling of a headstone at Fort Lancaster, they have shown no respect for the history of our beloved state, or its citizens. Last weekend, at the Texas Division Executive Commission meeting in Lorena, I addressed the issue and suggested that all activities of the Texas Historical Commission be boycotted. Not one voice was against this action. At this time we whole heartedly encourage all members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans to no longer participate in the upcoming events at Fort Lancaster, the Mexia Confederate Reunion Grounds, or Fort McKavitt. We are all volunteers at these activities, so we don't have to do anything else, just stay home.

This email and this action may be forwarded and shared with anyone you wish. I have no shame in standing up to an agency of the state who is supposed to be our servant.

David McMahon
Lt Commander
Texas Division





Thank you to the Starnes family and everyone at the Walking S Steakhouse for their hospitality and providing a great meeting place for the Upshur County Patriots. Serving great food on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Save the Jefferson Ordnance Magazine

Article From: Preservation Texas



Constructed as part of a network of sites for the transportation of ammunition for the Confederate war effort, the Jefferson Ordnance Magazine is perhaps the only remaining example of a Civil War-era powder magazine in Texas. Strategically constructed on Big Cypress Bayou circa 1863, what was a transportation advantage has become a liability as the erosion of the banks of the

bayou has rapidly advanced to within seventeen feet. Owned by Historic Jefferson Foundation, this site is in need of protection from the changing landscape which threatens to cause the collapse of this important site listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Ten feet square and nearly fifteen feet tall, this brick building was constructed with walls one foot thick at its lower level. The walls include air spaces that formed a ventilation system to keep the interior brick dry and inside temperature stable. More than 90% of the structure is original, with careful repairs undertaken in 1992. Serving a supply network linking Shreveport, Marshall and Tyler, the ordnance magazine in Jefferson was once part of a complex of buildings on the edge of town that have all but vanished. Both architecturally and archaeologically significant, the preservation of this site will teach lessons about how to best address changing landscape conditions at an environmentally vulnerable historic place.



Photo by D. Palmer