



**Patriots Periodical**

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

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[www.upshurpatriots.org](http://www.upshurpatriots.org)

July 2016

**\*Best Newsletter Award\***

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

### **COMMANDER'S CORNER**

*by Phil Davis*



As you know we laid one of our members, Mac Overton, to rest in June. Mac was a charter member of the Upshur County Patriots. Due to his health he had not been able to attend our meetings for some time. Mac always kept us prominently displayed in the Gilmer Mirror. He will be sorely missed. (There are other articles in this Newsletter)

I believe that the Texas summer is finally here, although we are still having rain. The fields are still plenty green and the grass is really growing. I am already wishing for winter to come again.

As I told you at our June meeting, we had four delegates at the Texas Division Reunion. We voted as you, the Camp, had instructed us to do. Of the four amendments we voted on all but one

passed. The amendment that was tabled was to pay a ten dollar registration fee at the reunion. More study on this amendment was wanted by the delegates before a decision will be made. It was tabled until reunion time in 2017.

All in all, we had a good and informative time. There weren't many vendors for us to browse and shop. The Host Hotel was good. The restaurant was good and reasonably priced. Everything was in one place and we didn't have to drive to the meetings. I got to talk shop, which means **Guardian Program**, with many Compatriots from around the state. It was well worth the time and I learned many new things.

As I reported last month the 2016 National Reunion will be coming up in July and I would like to encourage you to attend. It will be held in Richardson and this will probably be the closest one we may ever have. I have been to two National Reunions and I thoroughly enjoyed both of them. You get to meet SCV members from all over our country and even some from foreign countries. There will be vendors of all kinds and you can pick up items of every nature that interest you. It will be held July 13-16.

This is also an election year and you will have a part in electing your National Commander.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all a Happy Fourth of July. Be safe whether you are at the lake or on the highways. Cook a burger for me. Don't forget our meeting July 5.

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\***

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### NEXT MEETING

July 5, 2016

Meeting at 7 PM

Walking S Steakhouse

### Ore City Parade

July 2, 2016

Muster 10 AM

Parade 11 AM



Commander Phil Davis unveils our new Camp Flag.



## The Guardian

By Phil Davis

June was a good month for the Guardian Program. I have of this date, June 12, received 15 applications from Compatriots who want to be Guardians to honor and preserve the final resting places of our Confederate Heroes. As I am able to speak to different people and explain what it is we Guardians do, I begin to receive applications regularly from all over the state.

At last month's reunion I was fortunate enough to meet three people that I needed to get information from to complete their application process. All three promised to get their information to me. At the reunion I was able to meet and speak to many new friends about the Guardian Program. Some said "I need to do that". Some even said "I will do it". Some in the Upshur County Patriots say the same things.

I am rapidly approaching 600 applications. That's a good thing and I am enjoying every minute of it. My ☺ thanks to all who care enough about their Southern Heritage to be

a part of such a great program of honoring and preserving these final resting places.

With all of the defacing, defiling, and removal of plaques and statues memorializing the struggles of the South, it won't be long before the incursions into central CSA cemetery monuments by the neo-deconstructionists becomes an attack upon our ancestor's headstones. They must be monitored and protected now more than ever!

As I always say, I believe with all my being in the Guardian Program and I hope that in some way you will be convinced of its importance in fulfilling "The Charge".

As always, I leave you with this question-

Are you a Guardian? If not, why not?

C'mon man!



True Grandson and War Veteran Bill Palmer speaks about World War II at our June meeting.



### Spotlight on Kim Duffey

By: Eddie Pricer



This is the second in a series of articles where we focus on those who support the "Cause" both on a personal level as well as pursuing the ideals of genteel Southern living through organizational endeavors. The Patriot's Periodical continues to throw a spotlight on one of these dedicated souls. It is with great pleasure that we again turn the "Spotlight On" our own Kim Duffey.

Kim is a gentleman's gentleman in the truest sense of the definition. His posture and attire indicates to all that encounter him that he is a man of character and substance. Kim is well respected within the community and volunteers for many endeavors that promote the well-being of the citizens. His manner and character portray the essential and classic Southern Gentlemen.

Kim Duffey is the current Judge Advocate of the Upshur Patriots and most recent past Color Sergeant. Kim is always quick to accept challenges, guide us through our endeavors, and strives to enlighten us with his vast historical research and knowledge. Some of the activities with which Kim is involved, include parades and public memorial ceremonies at both grave and monument sites. Kim provided significant support in the procuring and placement of a monument honoring Confederate Heroes on the front lawn of the Historic Upshur Museum across from the Courthouse on the downtown square in Gilmer. He has generously donated to the Camp to facilitate our financial goals such as providing scholarship money for youngsters to attend the Sam Davis Youth Camp.

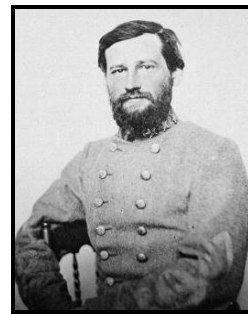
Kim is the Chairman of the Upshur County Patriots Grave Registration and Research Team. He spends many hours walking cemeteries searching for potential and actual Confederate Soldier gravesites, not to mention the countless hours dedicated to research on the computer. In addition, Kim has worked to repair broken and toppled monuments in local cemeteries. Along this line, he has volunteered to be the Guardian over several Confederate graves making sure that they are properly marked and honored. Kim quickly volunteered to take over the Guardianship void left upon the death of Paul Hamilton.

Just imagine, with all Kim does to forward the "Cause," he somehow finds time for a

multitude of family activities. We all should be so lucky as to have someone so caring and loving in our home. I don't see how he finds time to work on that shop/barn that he is singlehandedly building. Three cheers for Kim Duffey for the **spotlight** is on you.

### 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.



Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander  
United Confederate Veterans,  
New Orleans, Louisiana, April 25, 1906.

"Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations."

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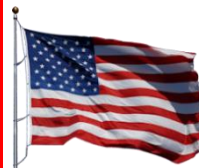
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**OUR PLEDGES**

**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.

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

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Chaplain's Comments  
By Larry Harper

Being the Camp Chaplain is more than just mentoring or ministering to the needs of our members and their families. It requires not only addressing today's issues, but to that end one must compare and contrast those issues with the calamities faced by the Confederate Soldier. With that in mind, I begin with a section from the Confederate Soldier's Pocket Manuel of Devotions as compiled by Reverend C.T. Quintard, Chaplain 1<sup>st</sup> Tennessee Regiment.

The Duties of a Christian

**That man leads a sincere Christian Life, 1<sup>st</sup>.** *who endeavors to serve and obey God to the best of his understanding and power, 2dly who strives to please his neighbor to edification, 3rdly who endeavors to do his duty in that state of life unto which it has pleased God to call him.*

*Whoever would continue in the practice of these things unto his life's end, it is necessary that he should call himself often to an account whether he does so or not, constantly pray for grace to know, and to do his duty; and preserve himself in such a*

*teachable temper as to be always ready to receive the truth when it is fairly proposed to him.*

I leave you this:

**[Remember if Yahweh our God is for us then it doesn't matter who is against us, only that we know.]**

James M. "Mac" Overton

Our beloved Compatriot and friend Mac Overton crossed over to the other side on Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup> in Longview, Texas. Mac was 66 years young, but had battled valiantly many illnesses for several years before being lifted up by his savior.

Mac Overton was a journalist in the truest sense of the word and he dedicated much of his adult life to that pursuit. Mac served as the editor for both the Big Sandy/Hawkins Journal as well as 22 years with the Gilmer Mirror before his retirement just about two years ago.

To the citizens of Gilmer, he will be remembered for many reasons including his talks to civic organizations on a host of topics. To us, our favorites though were when he spoke on Southern History and the fallacies promoted by the Northern victors. We cannot begin to imagine what stories and kinship he brought to his beloved family and we pray for their wellbeing.

We will miss his subtleties and wit, we will miss the comradeship and his strength of character, but most of all we will miss the handshake, the smile, and having a minute to listen to our story.

In loving memory. Thanks Mac.

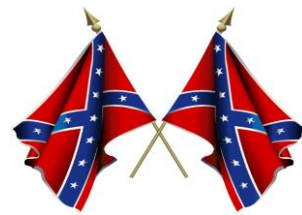
### The Role of the SCV

#### From: Sons of Confederate Veterans

##### National Headquarters

There are numerous organizations which support the South and Southern heritage. Some advocate a new secession and a renewed effort toward independence. Others do political work. Still others are purely educational, trying to show people the true facts. Many people are in several organizations. The SCV is unique in this effort. First, the SCV is the true legacy of the Confederate States of America. The SCV are not only the actual descendants of the original Confederates, but the SCV was created by them in 1896 and, later, in 1927, the surviving veterans voted to give all records, materials, Flags, symbols and remnants of the Confederate States of America to the SCV as their legitimate heirs. The SCV today is the only legitimate organization to interpret the efforts of their ancestors and the symbols they created. That fact is clearly recognized and supported by the Sons of Union Veterans of

the Civil War (SUVCW). Because of this role, the SCV frequently finds itself in the public eye and particularly in the media. It is vital that SCV members understand they represent their ancestors and have a duty to relate history as related by their ancestors. In his book, *A Southern View of the Invasion of the Southern States and the War of 1861 – 1865*, Captain Sam Ashe of North Carolina, succinctly lays out the Southern side of the conflict. All who defend Confederate Veterans should have a reprint of his book. He was the official spokesman for the United Confederate Veterans Association (UCV).



#### Historical Dates in July

July 21, 1861 Union forces defeated at Bull Run.

July 14, 1862 Secession of the Western Counties of Virginia.

July 1-3, 1863 The Battle of Gettysburg.

July 4, 1863 Vicksburg surrenders.

July 14, 1864 The Battle of Tupelo Miss.

July 22, 1864 The Battle of Atlanta, Ga.

Upcoming events and functions can be found on our calendar at [www.upshurpatriots.org](http://www.upshurpatriots.org)

### 2016 National Reunion

July 13-16, 2016

Renaissance Hotel

900 E. Lookout Dr.

Richardson, TX 75082



### Editor's Note

Some of our camp members, as well as others perform an Acoustic Music Jam twice a month. This takes place at the Walking S Steakhouse on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of each month from 6pm – 8pm. Bring your instrument and join in or just come and enjoy the music.

### Liberty and the Usurpation of our Government

By Eddie Pricer

As a group, Upshur County Patriots, we try to avoid most political dissertation and the promotion of various viewpoints. Therefore, I will attempt to tread lightly. I try to keep abreast of news events as do

many if for no other reason than how do today's current events compare to the past. In this current political frenzy, one thing is quite clear, and that is the fact that we are surrounded by neophytes that ascribe to the notion that money grows on trees and they ought to receive everything free, along with a host of dunderheads that haven't a clue about what happened yesterday, much less one hundred fifty five and two hundred forty years ago. Even some of the smarter news commentators baffle me. Notice I didn't call them reporters, that's a lost art.

I'm fearful of what is to come next, because these geniuses have forgotten or **intentionally disregard** our roots. Fortunately we have a local historian who is kind enough to provide us with reminders. The following is provided as a courtesy by:

James Still (Jun 2016),  
[RetraceOurSteps.com](http://RetraceOurSteps.com)

### In Pursuit of Liberty (1765)

Without a reminder, the human mind simply forgets. Thomas Paine wrote, "*It is at all times necessary... that we frequently refresh our patriotism by reference to first principles.*"<sup>[1]</sup> Writing about America's first settlers, John Adams reminded his readers of the Puritan's courageous pursuit of liberty. "*It was this great struggle [between the people and tyranny] that peopled America. It was not religion alone, as is commonly supposed; but it was a love of*



universal liberty, and hatred, a dread, a horror, of [tyranny]... [The Puritans] had been so vexed and tortured by the powers of those days, for no other crime than their knowledge and their freedom of inquiry... that they at last resolved to fly to the wilderness for refuge...

It may be thought polite and fashionable by many modern fine gentlemen, perhaps, to deride the characters of these persons... But such ridicule is... grossly injurious and false. Religious to some degree of enthusiasm it may be admitted they were; but this can be no peculiar derogation [dishonor] from their character... Whatever imperfections may be justly ascribed to them... their judgment in framing their policy was founded in wise, humane, and benevolent principles... Tyranny in every form, shape, and appearance was their disdain and abhorrence; no fear of punishment, nor even of death itself in exquisite tortures, had been sufficient to conquer that steady, manly [courageous], pertinacious [unshakeable] spirit with which they had opposed the tyrants of those days in church and state... they saw clearly, that popular powers must be placed as a guard, a control, a balance... in every government, or else it would soon become... a great and detestable system of fraud, violence, and usurpation."

**John Adams** - A Dissertation on the Canon and Feudal Law, 1765

"Recollect the civil and religious principles and hopes and expectations which

constantly supported and carried them [the Puritans] through all hardships with patience and resignation. Let us recollect it was liberty, the hope of liberty for themselves and us and ours, which conquered all discouragements, dangers, and trials"

**John Adams** - A Dissertation on the Canon and Feudal Law, 1765

..."inform the world of the mighty struggles and numberless sacrifices made by our ancestors in defense of freedom."

**John Adams** - A Dissertation on the Canon and Feudal Law, 1765

"... should we wander from [The Founding Principles]... let us hasten to **retrace our steps** and to regain the road which alone leads to peace, liberty, and safety."

**Thomas Jefferson**, First Inaugural Address, March 4, 1801

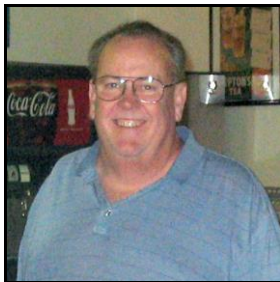
[1] Thomas Paine, Dissertation on First Principles of Government, 1795

[RetraceOurSteps.com](http://RetraceOurSteps.com)

\* Please donate to our Sam Davis Youth Camp Fund!



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



Thank you to Past Commander Eddie Pricer for his contributions to this month's Newsletter.



Compatriot Austin Moss being sworn in by Commander Phil Davis



At our June meeting, Commander Phil Davis presented the following personal awards from the Texas Division of Sons of Confederate Veterans:

Kim Duffey – Gold Cross for Meritorious Service

Archie "Otter" Hass – Silver Cross for Meritorious Service

Mark Hass – Silver Cross for Meritorious Service

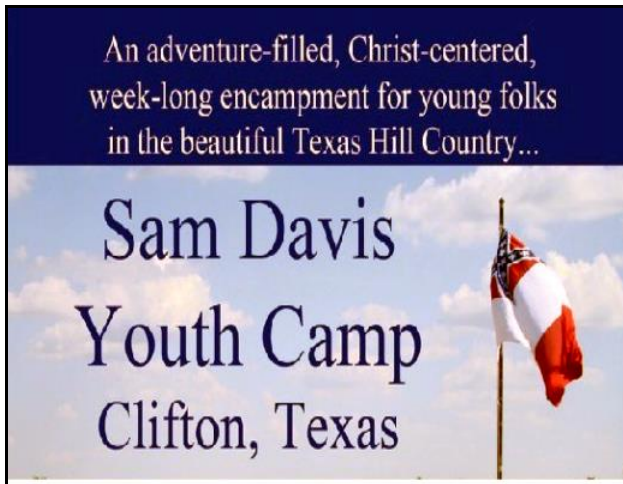
Larry Harper – Silver Cross for Meritorious Service

Joseph Moss – Bronze Cross for Meritorious Service

David Palmer – Bronze Cross for Meritorious Service

Michael Pepper – Honor Award for Meritorious Service





### Sam Davis Youth Camp Fund

Although most of you know the importance of the Sam Davis Youth Camp, many of our newer members may not. The Sam Davis Youth Camp provides a wholesome environment where youngsters learn Southern history, the genteel way of life, their heritage and the courage and fortitude to stand up unashamedly and honor their ancestors. Future leaders in our organization, as well as the OCR and UDC are developed here and with all of the distractions foisted upon our youth today, we cannot afford to miss the opportunity to guide and nurture them down the path of righteousness.

In the past, our Camp along with the Patriot Rose Camp of the OCR have taken the opportunity to sponsor in whole or in part three scholarships to the Sam Davis Youth Camp. This year we have a dilemma, albeit a happy one. We have three young people, the children of our members who wish to attend. The Patriot Rose Camp has donated

\$250.00 toward the fund. The families have provided whatever funds they could, along with gear and transportation to the Sam Davis Youth Camp. Previously the Upshur Patriots have made up any monetary difference needed for the scholarship. To send all three, between the families and our Camp, we need an additional \$1250.00.

The Sam Davis Youth Camp does provide some scholarship funds as their Board does not want to see any youngster miss this opportunity of fellowship and learning. That being said, we need to band together and donate as generously as you can, \$5.00, \$10.00, \$20.00 or more, before the Camp is asked to step up.

With all this said, we as The Upshur Patriots decided to authorize our camp to send all three of these young people to this year's Sam Davis Youth Camp. I have faith that our members will step up and replenish our camp treasury.

Bring your wallets, pocketbooks, checkbooks and your ❤️ to the next meeting!

Donations may be made to: Upshur Co. Patriots, P.O. Box 472, Gilmer, Tx. 75644

Phil Davis, Commander





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.



\*Please donate to our Sam Davis Youth  
Camp fund\*



Awards from Texas Division Sons of  
Confederate Veterans

Best Newsletter Award

\* 1<sup>st</sup> Place \*

Upshur County Patriots

Camp #2109

David Palmer - Editor

Best Website Award

\* 1<sup>st</sup> Place \*

Upshur County Patriots

Camp #2109

Joe Reynolds - Webmaster

