

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

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July 2017

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



Gentlemen, the fight has come to our doorsteps. Just a mere 90 miles away in Paris, we were in danger of losing a Confederate Monument that has stood since 1906. An underhanded move by the Lamar County Judge and some of his cronies put together a plan to move this statue. This plan was kept from the people of Paris. The people didn't know of the plan, until late on the evening before the commissioners met to vote on its removal. But the word got out and spread like wildfire.

George Linton, Frank Smith and I were at the John Gregg meeting when Esther Linton called to tell us of the Commissioners meeting to move the statue. Norma Holley had contacted her and she called me, since George leaves his phone in the truck at meetings. The three of us decided to go to Paris and be there at the 9AM Commissioners meeting.

When we first arrived in Paris there were only a couple of people at the statue. As the time for the meeting grew near, people started coming out of the woodwork. By the time we got into the courtroom, I would estimate 150-200 people were present; almost all of them were against moving the statue.

There were three commissioners and the presiding judge in attendance. After reading the motion to remove, the judge then read a letter from the THC (Texas Historical

Commission) which in short told them if they removed the statue without approval from the THC they would break the law and be subject to a fine and imprisonment.

The judge made a motion to appeal to the THC for permission to move it. The motion was made and seconded. The vote was taken and two voted not to remove and one to remove. The judge voted to remove but that only made a tie and the motion failed. (If you would like to hear the court's proceedings go to Paris News face book page and they recorded the whole thing.)

It was evident by the vocal tone of the crowd that the judge and the commissioner that voted to remove should start looking for a job come next election.

This time the people won, but the fight isn't over. We must be even more diligent in protecting our monuments. If you hear the slightest word on moving a statue or monument please contact the camp so that we might notify Texas Division Heritage Defense.

It is of the utmost importance for each of us to be active in preserving our monuments and the way of life we have in the South. The way we can do this is to build our camps strong and active.

It is that time again for us to pay our dues. A little change this year is that all dues are delinquent on September 1, 2017. Please remit your dues to our adjutant Rickie Gipson or bring them to one of the next two meetings. If you failed to receive a dues notice or if it was incorrect please contact

Rickie. It is important that we maintain our strength in the Upshur County Patriots. If we lose members our heroes lose some of the support we owe them.

As always, I leave you with this question, have you talked to someone about joining our Camp or another SCV camp?

Well, Why Not?



Lamar Co. Confederate Monument
L to R are: George Linton, Phil Davis,
Frank Smith and John Brown.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Meeting

July 11, 2017 7 PM
Walking S Steakhouse

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

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The Guardian

By Phil Davis

Chairman Texas Div. Guardian Program

The Texas Division Guardian Program is alive and growing. As I write this article

We,

have reached 751 completed applications. I use the word we as you are as much a part of this programs success as I am. At the rate we are going we will reach 1,000 by the end of 2017.

At the Texas Reunion, I presented two Guardian Certificates to two Compatriots. It is an honor to present these certificates at camp level, but even more special at the Division level.

As you may know we now have a Guardian Lapel Pin. I was able to distribute around 50-60 pins while at the Reunion. Everyone seemed to be pleased to be able to wear the Lapel Pin every day as well as at functions, not only just on the uniform. The purpose of the Medal or Lapel Pin is to let other Guardians recognize you as a Brother Guardian.

I am happy to announce that our new Texas Division Commander, David McMahon is a Full Guardian and has been for some time.



He is 100% behind the Guardian Program. The Lieutenant Commander, John McCammon has already talked to me about becoming a Guardian. I look for his application soon. The 2nd Lt. Commander, Dennis Brand is a Full Guardian. The 3rd Lt. Commander Lee Lance is not a Guardian but I will work on him. Commander McMahon told me he was going to push the Guardian Program to the fullest.

As you know I believe that every Honorable male of Confederate ancestry should be in the Sons of Confederate Veterans and I also believe every member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans should be a Guardian over the final resting place of a Confederate Hero.

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?



Never Forgotten

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	37
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



Compatriot Joseph Moss gives our June program on Stonewall Jackson. Joseph had also given this program to his classmates at school.

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:

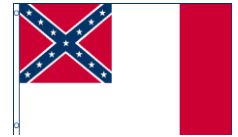
Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.



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.



This month's article comes from Sanford C. Reed, Chaplain Texas Division

Psalm 62:7 On God my salvation and my glory rest; the rock of my strength, my refuge is in God.

Dear Compatriots,

It is a great honor and privilege to serve as Texas Division Chaplain. I was so happy to meet many men at our recent convention who are serving their church, teaching, leading, working with great programs, involved in Walk to Emmaus, Kairos Prison Ministry, and others. We must continue to be Christian leaders in our communities if we wish to be heard on the larger stage about current day issues. We must all continue to lead from a strong Christian foundation. Remember that we must follow God's plan for our lives, and resist the temptation to create our own plans. The choice of wisdom is to follow the plans of our Heavenly Father.

In 1865, at the end of the bloodiest war our nation has ever seen, VMI had been burned nearly to the ground, and Washington College was severely damaged when it was used as Union barracks. With no money and no president, Washington College had somehow remained open throughout the war. During this time it served primarily as a preparatory school, with four professors

teaching about forty boys who were too young to serve in the Confederate army.

The school's trustees were determined to save their desperate college. On August 4, 1865, they met to discuss applying for a loan and the prospects for the college's presidency. At that meeting, a board member rose and said that he had heard that General Lee was looking for a position that would allow him to earn a living for his family. The trustees immediately elected Lee as president - contingent on his acceptance, of course. They offered him an annual salary of \$1,500, and the use of a house and garden and a small percentage of the tuition. Everyone in the country knew that Lee could lead soldiers, but few remembered that he also had served as superintendent of the United States Military Academy at West Point. For Lee, the position in tiny Lexington was an opportunity to lead his people into recovery. On August 31, 1865, Lee became the president of a school named for his mentor and his wife's grandfather, George Washington.

Among those first students were four young men who had fought with Lee. They formed a student organization using Lee as their Spiritual Founder, founded on Lee's principles of belief in God and Chivalry toward women. Their motto was Dieu Et Les Dames, for God and Womanhood.

If those young soldiers had beliefs strong enough to carry them through those turbulent times, we can do no less. We must keep our principles sound and our motives pure.

The Camp Chaplain should be the core leader and give spiritual direction at all times. I close with a prayer that can be used at your camp meeting.

SCV Confederate Prayer:

As we bow before You, Oh God - I pray - all will recognize You - as the only true living God. I am reminded that it was You - that directed the hearts and minds of our Founding Fathers in the War for our first Independence. It was You - who directed their actions - that they - and for their ancestors - might have freedom and unalienable rights - which were endowed by You - and given to man.

I am reminded of our Fathers - who fought in the War for our second Independence - how they stood for the same principles of those freedoms and rights - where many died for this righteous cause. Oh Heavenly Father - as we meet together - this day - I pray that our hearts will be fixed on truth - the dispensing of historical truth - and never forget the foundation that our Founding Fathers laid - for us.

Dear God - above all - I am reminded of the greatest gift - that you have provided for mankind - the provision of salvation for the spiritually lost - those without Christ. I pray that all present - will recognize their need for You - through Your Son - Jesus Christ. You are the giver of life. You are the only hope - for our souls.

I thank you - for how this was the message - of our Confederate Chaplains - who faithfully gave the Gospel Message - to the

soldiers - who fought and died for our freedom. May what is said in this meeting - be pleasing to you. Teach us to be good stewards - to share with others - this historical account - that has been and continues to be neglected and diminished in America.

May we do what we do - the Sons of Confederate Veterans - giving the truth of history - faithfully and with integrity.

I pray this prayer in the most precious name of Jesus Christ.

Amen!

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace." (Num. 6:24-26)

***Sanford C. Reed
Chaplain, Texas Division, ATM***



Compatriot Austin Moss (center) is presented with an Honor Award from the Texas Division at our June meeting.



Historical Dates in July

July 1861 earthworks and forts are engineered to surround Washington, D.C.

July 21, 1861 the Battle of Bull Run (or Manassas).

July 1-3, 1863 the Battle of Gettysburg.

July 4, 1863 the Battle of Vicksburg.

July 9, 1864 the Battle of Monocasy, Maryland.

July 10-11, 1863 Union Naval and Land forces attack Charleston.

July 13-14, 1863 Near Falling Waters, Maryland, Union troops skirmish with Lee's rearguard.

July 18, 1863 Second assault on Battery Wagner, S.C.

July 14-15, 1864 Battles near Tupelo, Ms.

July 20, 1864 Sherman's forces attack Atlanta.

July 30, 1864 Battle of the Crater at Petersburg, Va.



The new Guardian pins are available. If you are a Guardian and would like to own one; contact Phil Davis, Guardian Program Director, Texas Div.

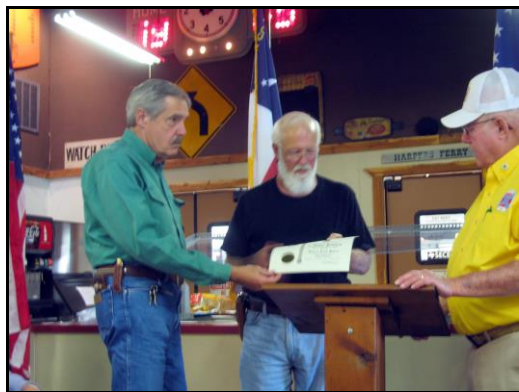


Compatriot Eugene Brown (on R) is presented with a Bronze Star Award by Commander Phil Davis.



Esther Linton (red shirt) is presented with The Lucy Pickens Service Award by Commander Phil Davis (L). The Lucy Pickens Award is the highest honor given by the Texas Division SCV to women who make an OUTSTANDING AND EXEMPLARY contribution to support the Cause. This award is named for Lucy Pickens, known as the "Queen of the Confederacy". George Linton and their daughter Andrea stand with Esther.

Comments or suggestions should be made to: David Palmer, Editor
david.palmer@upshurpatriots.org



2nd Lt. Commander David Palmer (center) is presented a Silver Cross Award by Commander Phil Davis (on R) and 1st Lt. Commander Milt Ojeman.



Compatriot Michael Pepper (R) is presented with a Bronze Cross award by Commander Phil Davis.



Camp Chaplain Larry Harper (on R) is presented with a Silver Cross Award by Commander Phil Davis (on L).



Justin Jones (L) and Jared Jones (center) are presented with Gold Cross Awards from the Texas Division by Commander Phil Davis.



2017 Reunion Awards

At this years' Texas Division Reunion, the Upshur County Patriots Camp #2109 were honored with the following awards:

- *Best Newsletter 2nd Place, Camps over 50 members.
- *Best Website 2nd Place, Camps over 50 members.
- *Camp Growth Award for Camps over 50 members.
- *Advance the Colors Award. This Award is presented to a business (or individual) which regularly flies one of the flags of the Confederacy in a respectful manner. The Certificate was presented to Bill Starnes and the Walking S Steakhouse.
- *4 Star Camp Award. This is presented to Camps that meet regularly and participate in a wide range of activities.



Lucy Petway Holcombe Pickens (1832–1899).

From: Texas State Historical Association

Lucy Pickens, renowned Southern beauty, second of five children of Beverly Lafayette and Eugenia Dorothea (Hunt) Holcombe, was born on June 11, 1832, near La Grange, Fayette County, Tennessee, on the Holcombe plantation, named Westover of Woodstock. She attended La Grange Female Academy and in 1846, with her older sister, Anna Eliza, began study in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, at the Moravian Seminary for Young Ladies, which she attended for two years. Between 1848 and 1850 the Holcombes moved to Marshall, Texas. While awaiting completion of the mansion on their nearby plantation, Wyalucing, the family resided in a Marshall hotel. The Presbyterian church of Marshall was organized in the Holcombes' rented quarters. Beverly Holcombe became its first elder.

Lucy became highly acclaimed throughout the South for her "classic features, titian hair, pansy eyes, and graceful figure." In 1850, after a visit with the family of Mississippi governor John Quitman, Lucy looked in on the legislature, which then adjourned in her honor. Like Quitman, she espoused the liberation of Cuba. Her first

affianced identified as a Lieutenant Crittenden by one writer, died in a filibustering expedition of Gen. Narciso López. Subsequently Lucy, using the pseudonym H. M. Hardeman, wrote *The Free Flag of Cuba, or the Martyrdom of Lopez: A Tale of the Liberating Expedition of 1851*, a novelette published in 1855 by the New York publishers DeWitt and Davenport.

At White Sulphur Springs, Virginia, in the summer of 1856, Lucy met Francis Wilkinson Pickens, twice a widower and twenty-seven years her senior. Her acceptance of his marriage proposal, it is said, hinged on his acceptance of a diplomatic post abroad. President James Buchanan appointed him ambassador to Russia, and on April 26, 1858, at Wyalucing, Pickens and Lucy were wed. Lucy was a favorite at the Russian court. She gave birth to her only child at the imperial palace on March 14, 1859, and named her Eugenia Frances Dorothea Olga Neva (the last two names being added by the czarina); the daughter came to be known as Douschka (Russian for "little darling"), a nickname that she kept all her life. Though raised a Presbyterian, Lucy was converted to her husband's Episcopalianism while in Russia.

Foreseeing troubled times for the South; Pickens resigned his diplomatic post in the fall of 1860 to return home. He was elected governor by the South Carolina legislature and was inaugurated on December 17, 1860. By selling the jewels that had been given her in Russia, Lucy helped out the Confederate Army unit that bore her name, the Lucy Holcombe Legion. Two portraits of her were used on Confederate money-one

on the one-dollar notes of June 2, 1862, and another on the \$100 notes of December 2, 1862, April 6, 1863, and February 17, 1864. Mrs. Pickens was vice regent for South Carolina in the Mount Vernon Ladies Association and was also the originator and president of an association that sought to erect a monument to the Confederate dead of Edgefield County, South Carolina. She died at her home, Edgewood, on August 8, 1899, of a cerebral embolism, and was buried near her husband and daughter in Edgefield Cemetery.



A Positive Display

From your Editor:

With all of the negativity toward our heritage and monuments, I thought it would be good to look at a positive display of our Flag.



Flags above L to R - Spain, France, Mexico, Confederate, Texas and United States.

The Flags above fly at the Six Flags Amusement Park in Arlington, Texas. All of these Flags flew over Texas at some point since the Flag of Spain in 1519. It is a beautiful display with our beloved “Stars and Bars” flying high. Six Flags over Texas

has been in existence since 1961. The Park has changed ownership during the years but has continually flown our Flag through these transitions.

A Word About Independence Day in the Civil War

From: the Emerging Civil War

By: Virginia R. Benson

As we all celebrate the Fourth of July Independence Day, let us also remember that Independence Day was considered an important celebration during the Civil War in both the North and the South. In the North, Independence Day was symbolic for preserving the Union. In the South, it represented a time of celebrating the Founding Fathers and the constitutional rights and ideas of independence.

“The Fourth of July as a celebration centered on conceptions of American identity and about the core concepts of America,” says historian Jared Jefferson Bond. “With the celebration of the Fourth of July, both sides of the war sought to preserve their right to observe and honor what they felt was the true vision of America.”

Independence Day in the Confederacy was celebrated until 1863, as an official holiday, but newspapers continued to “assert the South’s right to the principles set forth by the Declaration of Independence and to the celebration of the Fourth of July,” Bond says.

On July 4, 1865 the Fourth of July was fervently celebrated by the Northerners.

The New Hampshire Sentinel wrote: "Never before since the birth of the nation, had we so abundant cause for public rejoicing as now. Formerly we rejoiced in a country gained; now, in a country gained and a country saved." ("The fourth of July, 1865 – Welcome to the Soldiers," The New Hampshire Sentinel, July 6, 1865.)

So today let's all celebrate our heritage, our Nation, and the principles for which our Nation was founded, and for which many of our soldiers fought and died to defend our freedoms.



The Sons of Confederate Veterans broke ground at Elm Springs for a new building "The National Confederate Museum." The museum that will tell the truth about what motivated the Southern people to struggle for many years to form a new nation. A building fund for this purpose is ongoing. One of the goals is to provide an accurate portrayal of the common Confederate Soldier, something that is currently absent in most museums and the media. We are invited to take a stand for the future by contributing to this fund.

*The Upshur Co. Patriots have a designated fund to help with this project. Please donate what you can.



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



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.



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.

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