

Patriot's Periodical

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

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July 2018



*** Best Newsletter Award 2nd Place ***

Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans
June 2017 Reunion



*** Best Newsletter Award 1st Place ***

Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans
June 2016 Reunion

COMMANDER'S CORNER

By Milt Ojeman



Our next meeting will be on the evening before July 4th. We need to remember our founding fathers who, 242 years ago, risked everything when they signed their names to that important declaration. We can also relate July 4th to tragic Confederate losses at Vicksburg and Gettysburg in 1863.

This country has endured civil war, world wars, and terrorist attacks in those 242 years and still stands strong. I hope that each of you have a safe and happy 4th.



Our newest member Jerry Akin (R) is sworn in by Camp Commander Milt Ojeman (L) at our June meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Meeting

July 3, 2018 - 7 PM
Walking S Steakhouse

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

www.upshurpatriots.org



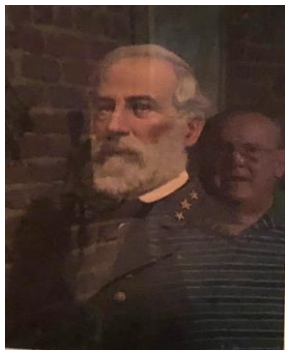
MIRIAM AMELIA PALMER
MARCH 22, 1926 – JUNE 3, 2018

RICKIE A. GIPSON
FEBRUARY 14, 1948 – APRIL 12, 2018



Happy Birthday

Butch Ragland – July 30, 19XX



General Robert E. Lee



Camp Leadership

Upshur County Patriots Camp #2109

Commander

Milt Ojeman

(903) 762-1028

cavcw@yahoo.com

1st Lt. Commander

Eugene Brown

(903) 759-4230

browneh1944@gmail.com

2nd Lt. Commander

Editor

David Palmer

(903) 237-8941

david.palmer@upshurpatriots.org

Adjutant

Don Loyd

(903) 797-6922

donroyd@etex.net

Deputy Adjutant

Eddie Pricer

(903) 692-3388

spooky1522@etex.net

Chaplain

Larry Harper

(903) 918-2203

lmharper1952@aol.com

Librarian

Brandon Pricer

(682) 552-5802

bpricer11b@gmail.com





Phil Davis, Guardian Program Chairman (R) presents Certificates to his son Larry for Guardianship of the Hunley Crew graves.

The Guardian

By Phil Davis

Compatriot's, I have done everything in my power to tell you about the Pride and Satisfaction that I receive from being a Guardian. I am rewarded with a feeling, of closeness and kinship, which overcomes me as I visit my graves.

The small things such as placing a flag on the grave, saying a few words of praise, a prayer, reciting the charge and inspecting the gravesite for anything that I can do, while making it more presentable to the public. To me it's almost like attending a church service. The solemnity of being in the presence of a "True Southerner" is felt in my chest and chokes many of the words I say.

Do your part; get involved in the Guardian Program. Prove to the world that your ancestors mattered and that you care about their reasons for leaving their homes and family to go fight for what they knew was a just cause.

I have just completed two applications from a Son and Grandson who have stepped up

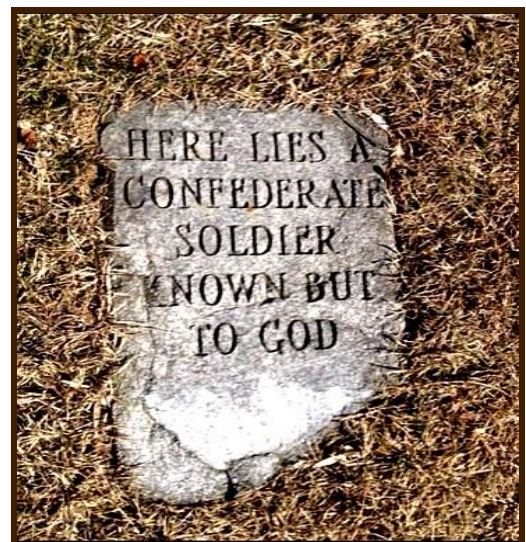
and taken over their deceased Father and Grandfather's Guardian duties. My hat is off, for these two compatriots. This is how the program is designed to work, creating a successive chain of patriots protecting and preserving history.

Don't you want someone to care for and protect your ancestors' grave when you are no longer around? Create a visible atmosphere for your relatives, friends and acquaintances whereby they will honor you and your forebears by protecting not only your history and final resting place, but that of your ancestors.

Make a Confederate Soldier proud and Honor his Final Resting place.

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</u> <u>Status</u>	<u>Number of</u> <u>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	Full/GPT	18
Bill Starnes	Full/W/GPT	7
Frank Smith	Full	2

W=Wilderness GPT=Guardian Pro Tem



Our June Program was given by 3rd Lt.
Commander Bill Starnes on the McGavock
Cemetery and the Battle of Franklin.

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."*



*"Guard with jealous attention the public
liberty. Suspect everyone who approaches
that jewel. Unfortunately, nothing will
preserve it but downright force. Whenever
you give up that force, you are inevitably
ruined."Patrick Henry (speaking on the
2nd Amendment)*

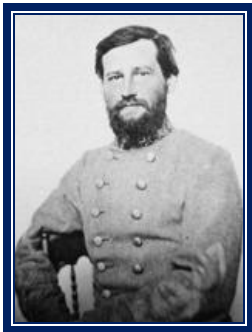


Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans

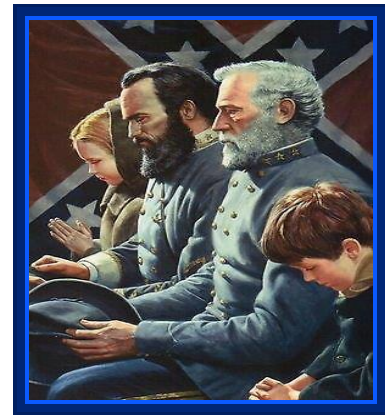
“To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier’s good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish.”



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

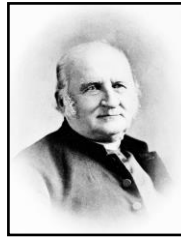


Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander
United Confederate Veterans
New Orleans, Louisiana, April 25, 1906.



Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson

Christian Duty in the Present Time of Trouble



Excerpts from a Sermon Preached at
St. James’ Church
Wilmington, N.C. 1861
By: Rev. Thomas Atkinson, D. D.,

Applicable in today’s times...

"Blessed is the man that endureth temptation; for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life which the Lord hath promised to them that love Him."--

St. James, first Chapter, 12th Verse.

We stand to-day, dear brethren, in the midst of circumstances of great doubt and anxiety, with provocations tending to kindle the bitterest and most vehement passions, and with the line of duty in many instances difficult to trace, and difficult to follow, even when traced. Never did we stand more in need of right counsels, deliberate and conscientious reflection, earnest purpose to do our duty, and heartfelt dependence on God our Savior, for guidance and strength to enable us for its performance. We stand to-day, face to face with civil war, a calamity, which, unless the experience and universal testimony of mankind deceive us, is direr and more to be deprecated than foreign war, than famine,

than pestilence, than any other form of public evil. The cloud we have all been so long watching, which we have seen, day by day, and month by month, enlarging its skirts, and gathering blackness, is now beginning to burst upon us.

It seems to me that no one but an Atheist, or an Epicurean, can doubt that it is God who rides in this storm, and will direct the whirlwind, and that He now calls upon us to look to Him, to consider our ways and our doings, to remember the offences by which we have heretofore provoked Him, and to determine on the conduct we will hereafter pursue towards Him, toward our fellowmen, and towards ourselves.

There is another consideration from which I derive great comfort, and which is certain to give comfort to all who receive it. As to the present questions between the North and the South, we can calmly, conscientiously, and, I think, conclusively, to all impartial men, maintain before God and man that now at least we of the South are in the right. For we are on the defensive, we ask only to be let alone.

Temptation or Trial (for they mean the same thing) comes to man in two forms, Prosperity or Adversity, of which the former is the more generally dangerous. Prosperity tempts us by inclining us to forget God, and to love the world which so smiles upon us, by slackening the reins on the necks of our appetites and passions, by opening the door to vices which our very circumstances might otherwise shut out from us, by nourishing selfishness, by deadening sympathy, and by weakening faith. Great prosperity has been

the ruin of many countries, and of many men in every country. It has surely been the occasion of a large part of our present miseries. We have been tried by prosperity as no nation ever was tried before, and we have yielded to temptation as completely and unresistingly as any people ever did. Our material prosperity, swift as was its advance, did not keep pace with our moral deterioration. There is no man this day in that wide land which was called the United States, who does not know trouble and affliction. It has come to us all, in some form or other, and to many in many forms.

Remember that you yourselves are now under trial; that the issues of that trial are for eternity, that though sharp it will be short; and that if you endure to the end you will be saved, and that the sharper the trial endured the more glorious will be the salvation. And now, dear brethren, what will be the result? Scripture prophesies it, and history prophesies it. Some of you will fail in this time of temptation, and will not endure it. Some of you, I fear, will sacrifice to the passions of the hour the Christian character, and the Christian hope. Some of you will come out of the trial purified and refined, and assured of a brighter crown. Resolve, oh Christian hearer, this day, in God's strength, to which class you will belong; whether to those who will cast away the crown to which perhaps for years they have aspired, or those who hold on to their hope with greater resolution than before.





HISTORICAL DATES IN JULY

July 4, 1776 The Adoption of the Declaration of Independence.

July 21, 1861 The first Battle of Bull Run.

July 1-3, 1863 The Battle of Gettysburg in Pennsylvania.

July 4, 1863 The Battle of Vicksburg.

July 10-11, 1863 Union naval and land forces attack Confederate defenses near Charleston, South Carolina.

July 13-14, 1863 Near Falling Waters, Maryland, Union troops skirmish with Lee's rearguard. That night the Army of Northern Virginia crosses the Potomac River and the Gettysburg Campaign ends.

July 18, 1863 'Negro troops' of the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment under Col. Robert G. Shaw assault Fort Wagner, South Carolina. Col. Shaw and half of the 600 men in the regiment are killed.

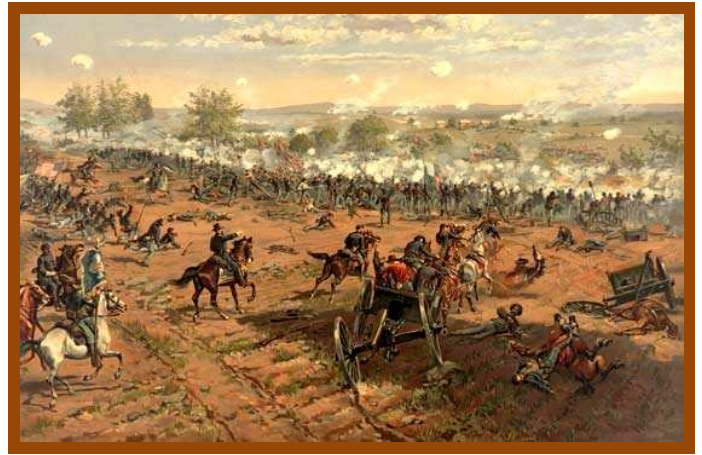
July 9, 1864 The Battle of Monocacy, Maryland.

July 17, 1864 General John Bell Hood replaces General Joseph Johnston as commander of the Army of Tennessee.

July 20, 1864 At Atlanta, Sherman's forces battle the Rebels now under the command of Gen. John B. Hood, who replaced Johnston.

July 21, 1864 The Battle of Atlanta. Hood's second effort to throw back Union forces under Sherman.

July 30, 1864 The Battle of the Crater at Petersburg, Virginia.



The Battle of Gettysburg, Pa.

From: history.net

The Battle of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania (July 1–July 3, 1863), was the largest battle of the American Civil War as well as the largest battle ever fought in North America, involving around 85,000 men in the Union's Army of the Potomac under Major General George Gordon Meade and approximately 75,000 in the Confederacy's Army of Northern Virginia, commanded by General Robert E. Lee. Casualties at Gettysburg totaled 23,049 for the Union (3,155 dead, 14,529 wounded, 5,365 missing). Confederate casualties were 28,063 (3,903 dead, 18,735 injured, and 5,425 missing), more than a third of Lee's army.

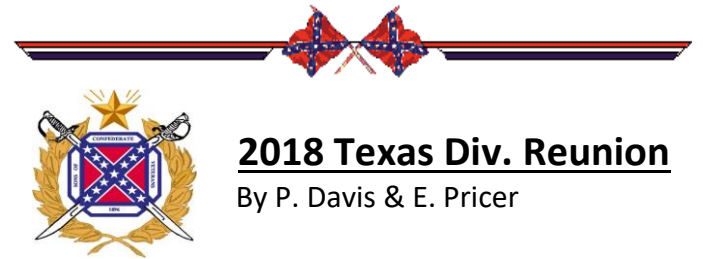
These largely irreplaceable losses to the South's largest army, combined with the Confederate surrender of Vicksburg, Mississippi, on July 4, marked what is widely regarded as a turning point, perhaps the turning point, in the Civil War, although the conflict would continue for nearly two more years and witness several more major battles, including Chickamauga, Spotsylvania Courthouse, Monocacy, and Nashville.

In the wake of Confederate victory at Chancellorsville, Virginia (May 1–4, 1863), Lee decided to attempt a second invasion of the North. This would take pressure off Virginia's farms during the growing season, especially in the "breadbasket of the Confederacy," the Shenandoah Valley. Additionally, any victories won on Northern soil would put political pressure on Abraham Lincoln's administration to negotiate a settlement to the war, or might lead to the South's long hoped-for military alliance with England and France.

In order to mask the army's movement up the Shenandoah Valley into western Maryland and central Pennsylvania, Lee depended upon his renowned cavalry leader J.E.B. "Jeb" Stuart. Upon crossing into Maryland, Stuart loosely interpreted Lee's ambiguous orders and began raiding Union supply trains. Cut off by the advancing Army of the Potomac, from June 25 until the night of July 2, Stuart lost all communication with the rest of the Confederate army, leaving Lee to operate blindly deep in enemy territory.

On July 4, Lee started a 27-mile-long train of hospital wagons down the road to Virginia. His army halted at the flooded Potomac River and entrenched for another battle, but Meade's army, too, was battered and exhausted and had consumed much of its ammunition. The Army of the Potomac did not pursue, for which Meade would be soundly criticized. He remained in command of that army for the rest of the war, even after Ulysses S. Grant was promoted to lieutenant general, placed over all Northern armies and attached

himself to the Army of the Potomac. Lee offered his resignation to Confederate president Jefferson Davis, but it was refused and he, too, remained in command for the rest of the war.



The 2018 Texas Division Reunion has come and gone. This year's Reunion was held in Nacogdoches, in the beautiful piney woods of deep east Texas.

The Reunion opened with the ceremonial presentation of the Colors, followed by the Invocation delivered by Division Chaplain Sanford Reed. The pledges to the United States and Texas Flags, along with the Salute to the Confederate Flag followed. The attendees were then welcomed by various dignitaries, which were followed by speeches from several SCV members vying for National Office, including our own Johnnie Holley.

The business session then followed. Delegates first dealt with the approval of the Standing Rules and one member requested that each section be voted upon, thus creating a more lengthy process. All were ultimately approved with minor changes.

Next came the proposed constitutional amendments. As many of you are aware, there were 31 proposed constitutional amendments on the agenda. Your

delegates from the Upshur County Patriots spent time reviewing each amendment and determining the best course of action to preserve the standing of the Texas Division and the best interests of our Camp. However, to avoid a potentially divisive fight a motion was made to table all 31 amendments and create a committee to review the Division Constitution in whole and as it pertained to these amendments, in an effort to streamline the process and recommend changes to be presented at next year's Reunion.

During the new business session, a proposal was made by a business to take over maintenance of the Division website. No action was taken at that time (however, the proposal was acted upon and approved at the Division Executive Council meeting the next day). There were no other significant issues brought forward at the business meeting.

As with other Reunions, there were luncheons and banquets, along with the presentation of awards to members and camps for outstanding service.



Upshur County, Texas

Crime News

From: genealogytrails.com

FATAL AFFAIR

Thursday, May 12, 1853 - Submitted by
Kathy McDaniel

A few weeks since at Gilmer, Upshur County, Texas, a man named Robert

Bledsoe, was shot on the public square, by three citizens of that place. The deceased is said to have been a notorious and abandoned outlaw, and a source of perpetual annoyance and apprehension to the whole community. The Texas Star says that he was accustomed to ride over the public square every day with a volley of oaths against all good people, a flourishing of guns and gasconade, trampling on the laws of the country and the feelings of all, abusing private families, and evincing generally a reckless disregard of public decency, order and propriety. He was warned not to come again on the square, but, careless of all remonstrance, he did so, and was coolly shot down. The actors in the scene forthwith surrendered themselves, and, upon the testimony of the whole community, were instantly acquitted.

GIVEN TWENTY-ONE YEARS

February 01, 1902

Gilmer, Tex., Jan 31 - The jury in the T.J. Clay case, which has been on trial since Jan. 20, brought in a verdict giving him 21 years in the penitentiary. T.J. Clay was charged with the murder of Will Griffin in Tyler about the last of last June. Griffin was a bill collector for Meyer & Smith, merchants of Tyler, and presented a bill to Clay for collection. A dispute arose and a fist fight occurred. They were separated and in a few moments met again armed, and pistols were drawn, Clay shooting Griffin down, killing him instantly.

CONSTABLE HAS REAL NICE TIME

June 18, 1908 while attempting to Rescue Negro Murderer He is mobbed.

At Gilmer, Tex., last night, Ben Holland, a Negro, while intoxicated, shot and instantly killed his sister, Jennie Maribel. A crowd of several hundred Negroes gathered and was preparing to lynch him when Constable Cumbit, carrying a double-barreled shotgun, appeared and attempted to disperse the crowd. Instead of dispersing, the mob closed in on the constable, who clubbed his gun and started to fight his way out with his prisoner. In the struggle that ensued both barrels of the constable's gun were discharged and Josephine Mitchell and an unknown Negro man were instantly killed.

Life Term for Slayer of Sister

Gilmer, TX - In the case of Bob Hollins, colored, charged with the murder of his half-sister, Ida Marable, here on April 25 this year, the jury found him guilty of murder in the first degree and assessed his punishment at life imprisonment.



Military Pay During the Civil War

From: American Battlefield Trust

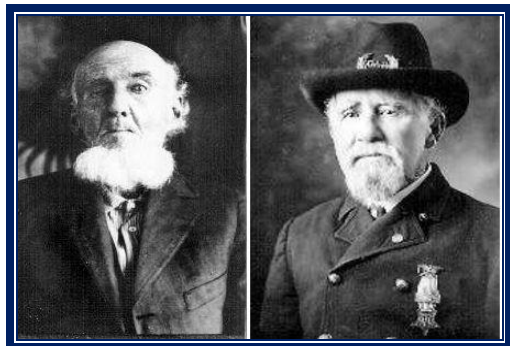
In theory, the soldiers of both the Confederate and the Union armies were supposed to be paid every two months. In practice, they usually weren't so lucky because the military paymaster had to keep up with the troops who moved swiftly over long distances. When the paymaster did arrive with the current and back pay, it was a happy day in camp. The following figures compare the income per month of the soldiers of each rank.

Rank	Confederate	Union
Private	\$11.00	\$13.00
Corporal	\$13.00	\$13.00
Sergeant	\$17.00	\$17.00
1st Sergeant	\$20.00	\$20.00
Qtr. Master Sgt.	\$21.00	\$21.00
Sgt. Major	\$21.00	\$21.00
2nd Lieutenant	\$80.00	\$105.00
1st Lieutenant	\$90.00	\$105.50
Captain	\$130.00	\$115.50
Major	\$150.00	\$169.00
Lt. Colonel	\$170.00	\$181.00
Colonel	\$195.00	\$212.00
Brigadier Gen.	\$301.00	\$457.00
Maj. General	\$301.00	\$315.00
Lt. General	\$301.00	\$748.00
General	\$301.00	-----

Officer Allowances: When you notice the discrepancy between the enlisted ranks and the officer ranks, remember that the officer pay included certain allowances, such as additional rations, forage, and fuel allowances. So, for instance, the Union infantry colonel's pay included the cash value for six human and three horse rations a day, which came to \$78 a month.

Confederate General Salaries: The Confederate generals' salaries do not reflect allowances. All ranks of Confederate generals received the same base pay because the Confederate army regulations recognized only one grade above colonel. Generals holding different commands, however, earned additional allowances for additional rations, fodder, fuel, quarters, and seniority. In addition, generals commanding an army in the field received \$100. Therefore, in 1864 Robert E. Lee's monthly salary totaled \$604 a month. This

amount included \$301 base pay, \$108 rations (for 12 rations a day), \$32 fodder allowance (for four horse rations a day), \$63 seniority pay (for \$9 per month for each five years in the service, including those years he served in the United States Army), and \$100 as an army commander.



W. Meadors

P. Knapp

Private Willis V Meadors (aka Meadows, Medders, Meaders) Co. G 37th Alabama Volunteer Infantry (enlisted at age 19 from Lanette, Chambers County, Al). He was shot in the eye at Vicksburg and 58 years later he coughed up the bullet and expelled it from his mouth.

Meadors eventually reunited and became friends with the man who fired the bullet, Peter Knapp, Co. H 5th Iowa Volunteer Infantry.

CONFEDERATE VET. COUGHS UP BULLET

(By The Associated Press)
Lanet, Ala., March 22.—W. V. Meadows, aged 78 years, of this place, a veteran of the civil war, and who was shot in the eye at the battle of Vicksburg, July 1, 1863, today coughed up the bullet, and is in his usual good health. The bullet, weighing approximately one ounce, had been lodged in his head 58 years.

Salisbury Eve. Post, N. C. March 22, 1921



The Fourth of July

From: Wikipedia

"The second day of July, 1776, will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more."

John Adams from a letter to his wife Abigail

Adams's prediction was off by two days. From the outset, Americans celebrated independence on July 4, the date shown on the much-publicized Declaration of Independence, rather than on July 2, the date the resolution of independence was approved in a closed session of Congress.

Independence Day is a national holiday marked by patriotic displays. Similar to other summer-themed events, Independence Day celebrations often take place outdoors. Independence Day is a federal holiday, so all non-essential federal institutions (such as the postal service and federal courts) are closed on that day. Many politicians make it a point on this day to appear at a public event to praise the nation's heritage, laws, history, society, and people.



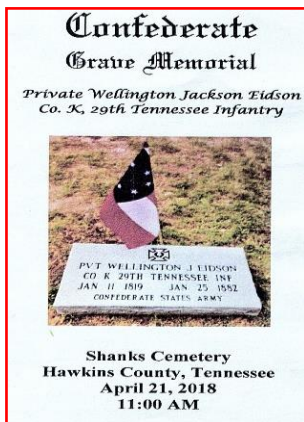
Pvt. Wellington Jackson Eitson

Co. K, 29th Tennessee Infantry
Confederate States Army

Thru the rolling hills and hollows of East Tennessee, past the mountain named The Devil's Nose, high on a hill in Carter Valley you see the surrounding creation of God's beauty. One can feel the presence of God's Love here. It is a quiet resting place for those buried in Shanks Cemetery.

With Pride and Honor this Confederate Memorial for Pvt. Wellington Jackson Eitson was performed by his ancestors, Rev. Jaime Eitson-Upshur County Patriots, Esther Eitson Linton-United Daughters of the Confederacy, George Linton-Upshur County Patriots, and Frank Smith-Upshur County Patriots participating.

In the Memorial, Barbara Eitson was the photographer. We appreciate the following camps for their participation: Clinch Mountain Rangers #1858, Tennessee Division SCV Color Guard, and The Sam Davis UDC Chapter Morristown, Tn. A special thank you goes to Staff Sgt. Michael Fultz of the Hawkins Co. Color Guard for playing Taps.





Harmony Hill Cemetery

Rusk County Texas

On June 9, 2018 a Cemetery Memorial was held honoring John Wilson Pepper. This is the Confederate Ancestor of Compatriot Michel Pepper. Thank you to all that attended and participated.

The photos below are from that event.



Esther Linton – UDC



Chaplain Larry Harper



Michael Pepper





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.



Coffee Mugs and Coasters, Caps, and Flags are available for a donation to our Camp fund. Contact Eddie Pricer or any Camp Officer.



We thank the Starnes family and everyone at the Walking 'S'



Steakhouse for their hospitality and for providing a meeting place for the Upshur Co. Patriots. Open for dining Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights.



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



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