



# PATRIOT'S PERIODICAL

UPSHUR CO. PATRIOTS CAMP #2109  
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS  
GILMER, TEXAS

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JULY 2019

**NEXT MEETING**

**JULY 2, 2019**

**\*Best Newsletter Award 3<sup>rd</sup> Place\***

*Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans June 2019 Reunion*

**\*Best Newsletter Award 2<sup>nd</sup> Place\***

*Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans  
Camps Over 50 Members June 2017 Reunion*

**\*Best Newsletter Award 1<sup>st</sup> Place\***

*Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans  
Camps Over 50 Members June 2016 Reunion*



Congratulations to our own Edward L. Pricer on being elected to serve as Commander of the 5<sup>th</sup> Brigade, Texas Division, SCV.

Eddie is a Past Commander of the Upshur Co. Patriots #2109 and is our current Deputy Adjutant. He has worked tirelessly over the years on behalf of the Upshur Co. Patriots and the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Eddie is retired from the Fort Worth Police Dept. and makes his home in Gilmer, Texas.



Frank Smith (Rt.)



Jerry Akin (Rt.)

Upshur Co. Patriots Members Frank Smith and Jerry Akin were presented with the Texas Division Bronze Cross at our June Meeting.

The Texas Division Bronze Cross for Meritorious Service is awarded to Texas Division SCV members for Outstanding and Exemplary patriotic achievement and community service of importance to the community and/or the SCV Camp, Brigade or Division.

**CAMP LEADERSHIP**  
**UPSHUR COUNTY**  
**PATRIOTS CAMP #2109**

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Sharps Rifle was used by both sides during  
the Civil War



**THE GUARDIAN**  
By Phil Davis

Our Brigade Commander Eddie Pricer and I visited the W.W. Heartsill Camp in Marshall on Tuesday June 18<sup>th</sup>. For those of you that haven't been there lately, this camp is on the go and doing very good. They received two new members last night, one by way of a transfer and the other as a new member. The meeting was very good and informative.

The program was presented by Bill Whitis, Chairman of the Harrison County Historical Commission. He spoke on how they were walking cemeteries and correcting problems with headstones. He also talked about Texas Historical Markers and how they had been vandalized and stolen. They found one in the bed of a pickup truck during a traffic stop in Colorado. He said he had many at his house that had been found and returned.

Although his primary purpose was not just to find Confederate Headstones, he has located many and is in the process of ordering VA Headstones for those that are unmarked. He hinted that he goes out of his way to do right by locating Civil War Soldiers graves.

His position is an unpaid position but he has a love for History and keeping it correct. By listening to him you could tell he is a dedicated person.

I tell you all this so you might know, we as Sons of Confederate Veterans are not the only ones who Honor our ancestors final resting place.

As Guardians we have a responsibility to always be on guard to protect our Ancestors. If you are not a Guardian I implore you to get involved in the Guardian Program. You won't regret this decision.

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 sworn duty to your Confederate Forebears. As always, I leave you with this question-

*Are you a Guardian? If not, why not?*



Our 5<sup>th</sup> Brigade Commander Eddie Pricer attending to his Guardian Duties.



## 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/GPT	8
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
Mitch Tyson	Full	3
Raven Baker	GPT	2

W=Wilderness GPT=Guardian Pro Tem



The oldest memorial marker in Texas honoring Confederate veterans of the Civil War rests quietly in a shaded corner of Oakwood Cemetery in Waco, surrounded by the graves of dozens of Confederate veterans and some of their wives.

The marker, a simple gray marble obelisk with no accompanying statue, was completed on March 18, 1893 and dedicated in a public ceremony on May 3, 1893, making it the oldest marker honoring Confederate veterans in the State of Texas.

## 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."***



*"We want to recognize, not antagonize. We  
are not confrontational; we wish to honor  
our families and their heroes. We have the  
right to do so without harassment or  
condemnation as we respect other people's  
rights to honor whomever they desire."*



## 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.



Gen. Stonewall Jackson

## GLIMPSES OF HEAVEN

*By: Joseph J. Mazzella*

I have always loved watching the sunset. I do so every chance I can. There is something about it that stirs my soul. I sit on my back porch and watch as the sky becomes a tapestry of ever changing colors. When you look at it for a brief instant it is like you are getting a glimpse of Heaven.

It isn't just sunsets, though, that can give you a glimpse of Heaven. With a loving heart and a grateful spirit you can see that they are everywhere. They are in every loving thought, every prayer from the soul, every simple act of kindness, every single act of charity, and every joyful "Thank You" you give to God.

Anything that brings us closer to love gives us a glimpse of Heaven. Any act that helps another soul gives us a glimpse of Heaven.

May you fill all of your days here with love and joy. May your heart always be full of thanksgiving. May you find Heaven everywhere you look and bring Heaven everywhere.

### ***Fun Fact:***

*The Chocolate Chip Cookie was invented in 1938 by Ruth Graves Wakefield, owner of the Toll House Inn near Boston, Ma.*

## HISTORICAL DATES IN JULY



**July 3, 1775** - During the American Revolution, George Washington took command of the Continental Army at Cambridge, Massachusetts.

**July 4, 1776** - The Declaration of Independence was approved by the Continental Congress.

### **Civil War 1861**

**July 11**, Battle of Rich Mountain, (West) Virginia

**July 21**, First Battle of Bull Run Manassas, Virginia

### **Civil War 1862**

**July 1**, Battle of Malvern Hill, Virginia

**July 1**, - President Abraham Lincoln signed the first income tax bill.

**July 12** - John Hunt Morgan's Confederate raiders capture Lebanon, Kentucky on their first raid.

### **Civil War 1863**

**July 1–3**, Battle of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

**July 4**, the Siege of Vicksburg, Mississippi.

**July 5** - Engagement at Birdson Ferry, Mississippi

**July 19**, Union troops made a second attempt to capture Fort Wagner near Charleston, South Carolina.

### **Civil War 1864**

**July 20**, Battle of Peachtree Creek, Georgia

**July 22**, Battle of Atlanta, Georgia

**July 30**, Battle of the Crater, Siege of Petersburg, Virginia



The Sons of Confederate Veterans is a non-profit, heritage organization whose mission is to preserve the history and legacy of Confederate veterans. It is not associated with any anti-government or hate groups. Membership is open to any male descendent of a Confederate veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces.



### **BATTLE OF RICH MOUNTAIN**

*From: worldhistoryproject.org*

The Battle of Rich Mountain took place on July 11, 1861, in Randolph County, Virginia (now West Virginia) as part of the Operations in Western Virginia Campaign during the American Civil War.

Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan assumed command of Union forces in western Virginia in June 1861. On June 27, he moved his divisions from Clarksburg south against Lt. Col. John Pegram's Confederates, reaching the vicinity of Rich Mountain on July 9. Meanwhile, Brig. Gen. Thomas A. Morris's Union brigade marched from Philippi to confront Brig. Gen. Robert S. Garnett's command at Laurel Hill. On July 11, Brig. Gen. William S. Rosecrans led a

reinforced brigade by a mountain path to seize the Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike in Pegram's rear.

A sharp two-hour fight ensued in which the Confederates were split in two.



### **BATTLE OF THE CRATER**

*From: history.com*

At the Battle of the Crater, July 30, 1864, the Union's attempt to break the Confederate lines at Petersburg, Virginia, by blowing up a tunnel that had been dug under the Rebel trenches fails. Although the explosion created a gap in the Confederate defenses, a poorly planned Yankee attack wasted the effort and the result was an eight-month continuation of the siege.

The bloody campaign between Union General Ulysses S. Grant and Confederate Robert E. Lee ground to a halt in mid-June, when the two armies dug in at Petersburg, south of Richmond.

In late June, a Union regiment from the 48th Pennsylvania Infantry began digging a tunnel under the Rebel fortifications. The soldiers, experienced miners from Pennsylvania's anthracite coal regions, dug for nearly a month to construct a horizontal shaft over 500 feet long. At the end of the

tunnel, they ran two drifts, or side tunnels, totaling 75 feet along the Confederate lines to maximize the destruction. Four tons of gunpowder filled the drifts, and the stage was set.

Union soldiers lit the fuse before dawn on July 30. The explosion that came just before 5:00 a.m. blew up a Confederate battery and most of one infantry regiment, creating a crater 170 feet long, 60 to 80 feet wide, and 30 feet deep.

The Yankees were slow to exit the trenches, and when they did the 15,000 attacking troops ran into the crater rather than around it. Part of the Rebel line was captured, but the Confederates that gathered from each side fired down on the Yankees. The Union troops could not maintain the beachhead, and by early afternoon they retreated back to their original trenches.

This failure led to finger pointing among the Union command. The Battle of the Crater essentially marked the end of Burnside's military career, and on April 15, 1865, he resigned from the army.

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## **JULY 4, 1865**

### ***First Independence Day after Civil War***

It was a Fourth of July unlike any other in the nation's history.

Independence Day 1865 was an uneasy mix of joy, relief, resentment and unhealed wounds as Americans sought reasons for celebration after a war that nearly tore apart the country.

But for the first time in more than four years, Independence Day dawned without Americans on the battlefield trying to kill other Americans.

Contemporary accounts and newspaper stories depict a subdued, at times somber celebration in a country struggling to recover a sense of normalcy. In some places, the holiday was barely observed at all.

President Andrew Johnson looked to the Fourth of July as a launching point to reunify not just the states, but also the hearts and minds of their inhabitants.



## **INDEPENDENCE DAY**

**Independence Day** (the Fourth of July) is a federal holiday in the United States commemorating the Declaration of Independence of the United States on July 4, 1776. The Continental Congress declared that the thirteen American colonies were no longer subject (and subordinate) to the monarch of Britain and were now united, free, and independent states. The Congress had voted to declare independence two days earlier, on July 2, but it was not declared until July 4.

Independence Day is commonly associated with fireworks, parades, barbecues,

carnivals, fairs, picnics, concerts, baseball games, family reunions, and political speeches and ceremonies, in addition to various other public and private events celebrating the history, government, and traditions of the United States. Independence Day is the National Day of the United States

*"The course of history shows that as a government grows, liberty decreases. The two enemies of the people are criminals and government, so let us tie the second down with the chains of the constitution so the second will not become the legalized version of the first."* Thomas Jefferson



## WHY JOIN?

From: Archibald Gracie Camp #985, SCV  
New York, N.Y.

***Note: It is refreshing to see that there are people in the North that share our views.***

While many groups exist dedicated to honoring specific ancestors, none is so sorely needed as the Sons of Confederate Veterans, for no group of American Servicemen are so constantly under attack. With each passing year, the reputation of the Southern Soldier is increasingly maligned. Their enemies seek to tear down their monuments, move their graves, and rename the buildings and other structures dedicated to them by their descendants. As an international organization, the Sons of Confederate Veterans is best equipped to

counter these attacks, both through public relations and legal venues. Paying annual dues to the SCV is the best way to be counted as someone who opposes any historical revisionism that defames the South.

Being in a Southern society in New York City is especially valuable! As a vast melting pot, New York City is famous for its various cultural centers, helping expatriates stay in touch with where they came from.

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## REPARATIONS FOR SLAVERY

By: Adam Shaw 6/19/19

As Democrats consider the idea of reparations to black Americans for slavery, polling indicates that the public is far from convinced about the idea.

House Judiciary Democrats on Wednesday were holding a hearing in the Constitution, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties subcommittee on H.R. 40 - a proposal by Rep. Sheila Jackson-Lee, D-Texas, to set up a commission to study and develop a response to the question of reparations for slavery.

A Fox News poll in April found that 60 percent of Americans oppose paying cash reparations to descendants of slaves, while just 32 percent support it. A Rasmussen poll in the same month found that just 21 percent of likely voters think taxpayers

should pay reparations to black Americans who can prove they are descended from slaves.

A number of 2020 presidential candidates have dabbled in talk of reparations, although they have yet to really dive into the controversial waters -- remaining vague about the extent of their plans.

According to the legislation being discussed at the hearing, the commission would “study and consider a national apology and proposal for reparations for the institution of slavery, its subsequent de jure (having a right or existence as stated by law) and de facto racial and economic discrimination against African-Americans, and the impact of these forces on living African-Americans, to make recommendations to the Congress on appropriate remedies, and for other purposes.”

*A bill must be passed by both the House and Senate in identical form and then be signed by the President to become law.*



Johnnie Holley, Past Trans-Mississippi Commander speaks at our June Meeting.



## WAR CRIMES COMMITTED BY FEDERAL FORCES DURING THE CIVIL WAR

From: [confederateshop.com](http://confederateshop.com)

Lincoln's Military Policies by almost any standard – those that existed prior to the War, those that existed after the War or even by the very standards Lincoln proclaimed to be operating under DURING the war, the prosecution of it... against civilians, against POWs, against property, against slaves, against women and children, against public works used for civilian purposes... was clearly criminal.

These Policies allowed the Federal Armies to elude their own rules of war as laid out in their own “Lieber Code” – a code they formed to supersede the previous, far more civilian friendly code that existed prior to the War.

### **The 1806 Military Code stated:**

“Any officer or soldier who shall quit his post or colors to plunder and pillage shall suffer death or other such punishment as shall be ordered by a sentence of a general court martial.”

**The Lieber Code** published in 1863 and signed by Lincoln allows “destruction of property” – that is, all property can be destroyed if determined to be of “military necessity.” The Code allows for an ultimate “out”: Article 5 states “To save the country (that is, the Union as conceived by the Federal Government) is paramount to all other considerations.”

Therefore, the Lieber Code, provides both the rationale AND the cover for Federal ambition. The rationale for Total War conducted against the South was the concept of “military necessity.”

In approving the Lieber code, Lincoln essentially was given the power to do whatever he deemed necessary to win the war. When urged by an Illinois congressman that he should “maul” the South, Lincoln replied “Tell the people of Illinois that I’ll do it.”

The Lieber Code is filled with restrictions that are obviated by the over-riding requirement of “military necessity” which in reality justifies violating all its more humane rules.

Scholars and historians... who justify what was done in the War of Secession with the plea that “it was necessary” are morally equivalent to the apologists for every tyrant who has murdered, raped, pillaged and enslaved throughout history as well as every tyrant who will come forth in the future.

*The Lieber Code can be found at:*  
[www.civilwarhome.com/liebercode.htm](http://www.civilwarhome.com/liebercode.htm)

**Total War:** *Instead of focusing only on military targets, armies conducting “total war” destroyed homes and crops to demoralize and undermine the civilian base of the enemy’s war effort.*



## **CONFEDERATE MONUMENT IN DOWNTOWN DALLAS BARRICADED, TARPED AHEAD OF REMOVAL**

*From: wbap.com/2019/05/02*

The Confederate monument in downtown Dallas has a new look as it awaits removal.

Months after the Dallas City Council voted to remove the monument from the city’s Pioneer Park; it remains standing but is covered in tarp and surrounded by a barricade.

“The City Manager decided to do that for security reasons,” said Councilman Philip Kingston. “There was some vandalism. But also, these monuments have become gathering places for violent white supremacists.”

The Dallas Landmark Commission voted to allow the statue to be removed following the City Council’s vote, but that decision is now being appealed. The estimated cost to take the statue down is just under \$500,000.

## CONFEDERATE HISTORY DISPELLING THE MYTHS

From: [rulen.com](http://rulen.com)

History books, the media, the school systems, etc. abound in falsehoods and inaccuracies of Confederate and Southern history.

**MYTH** -Only Southerners owned slaves.

**FACT** -Entirely untrue. Many Northern civilians owned slaves. Prior to, during, and even after the War of Northern Aggression.

**MYTH** -The Confederate Battle Flag represented the Southern Nation.

**FACT** -Not true. While the Southern Battle flag was carried into battle, the Southern Nation had 3 different National flags during the course of the war.

**MYTH** -The Confederate Battle Flag represents racism today.

**FACT** -The Confederate Battle Flag today finds itself in the center of much controversy and hoopla going on in several states. The cry to take this flag down is unjustified. It is very important to keep in mind that the Confederate Battle Flag was simply just that; A battle flag. It was never even a National flag. Those that vilify the Confederate Battle Flag are very confused about history and have jumped upon a bandwagon with loose wheels.

**MYTH** -The Confederate Flags are an authorized symbol of Aryan, KKK and hate groups.

**FACT** -Quite the contrary. These despicable organizations such as the KKK and Aryans have taken a hallowed piece of history, and

have plagued good Southern folks and the memories of fine Confederate Soldiers that fought under the flag with their perverse agenda. IN NO WAY does the Confederate Flag represent hate or violence. Heritage groups such as the SCV battle daily the damage done to a proud nation by these hate groups.

**MYTH** -The SCV - Sons of Confederate Veterans are a racist, hate group.

**FACT** -This is a blatant attack on one of the finest heritage groups ever. The SCV - Sons of Confederate Veterans are a historical, patriotic and non-political organization comprised of descendants of Confederate Soldiers and sailors dedicated to insuring that a true history of the 1861 -1865 period is preserved and presented to the public. The SCV continues to educate the public of the memory and reputation of the Confederate soldier as well as the motives for his suffering and sacrifice.

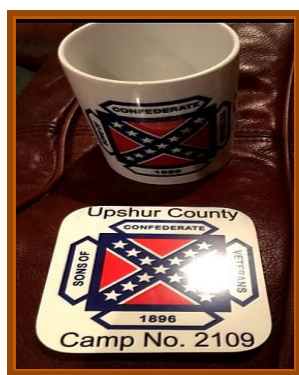
The SCV - Sons of Confederate Veterans are in NO WAY affiliated with, nor does it recognize or condone the terrible legacy of hate groups such as the KKK.



US Marine raises a Confederate Flag at Shuri Castle, Okinawa during WWII.



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



**SUPPORT THE UPSHUR  
COUNTY MUSEUM**



We thank Bill Starnes  
And the Starnes Family for  
providing a meeting Place  
for the Upshur Co. Patriots



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



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