

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

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September 2017

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



We are in a time of great trouble; the vestiges of civil society are crumbling all around us. Our Flag is being used to promote hate, by those who are so ignorant of the Nation's true history. Our statues are being defiled, removed or torn down by the very people who claim to loathe the neo-Nazi and white supremacist protestors. Yet, their actions are eerily similar to those that led up to World War II. These people who are doing this are trying to remove a part of history, whether good or bad, that is a vital part of the building of this great country.

They believe every aspect of the Civil War period in our country was about slavery. Regardless of any viewpoint, they demand we walk lock step with their view and ideology, talk about hypocrisy. If that's not the beginnings of slavery, I don't know what to substitute until a better form comes along.

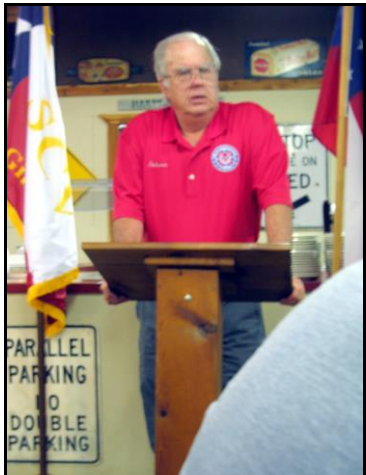
If you have been following the news or face book you have seen the pure ignorance of what is going on. If it wasn't so serious it would almost be funny. Some examples like wanting to remove Sam Houston's monument – he was against secession and lost his Presidency over his stand. In one city Taco Bell removed Ronald McDonald's statue. Some want to remove a statue of Christopher Columbus. As our President said "What is next, George Washington?" These are just a few of the examples I have observed I am sure there are many more.

On Saturday August 12, George Linton, Joe Reynolds and I ventured down to San Antonio to support a rally to keep the statue in Travis Park. It was a good and well planned rally. There was lots of security all around us. The BLM group was kept out of the park as the organizer had a permit. The BLM tried to shout down our speakers, but as you know you can't get louder than a bunch of rebels. There were only two arrests that I know of and they were from the BLM group.

We must continue to support our beliefs and when possible attend these rallies. We must try to enlarge our rolls of the SCV, teach the true history of the South, and to speak about our plight to save the South. Remember what your ancestor did for you.

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

**Well, Why Not?**



Trans-Mississippi Army Commander Johnnie Holley addresses our August Camp Meeting.

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Next Meeting**

September 5, 2017 7 PM  
Walking S Steakhouse

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



## **The Guardian**

**By Phil Davis**

**Chairman Texas Div. Guardian Program**

**Chairman National Guardian Program**

As I have traveled around our Brigade and the Texas Division, I am amazed at the number of my fellow compatriots that still do not know about the Guardian Program. I don't know, if we as Guardians are not diligently spreading the word about the Guardian Program. When I explain it to them, they normally are very interested and I receive an application shortly thereafter.

At the Travis Park rally in San Antonio on August 12, I had the opportunity to talk to several compatriots about the Guardian Program. All that I talked to were very interested and promised to look into it.

I believe to be a Guardian of the final resting place of a Confederate Soldier is probably, in my book, the most warming and rewarding thing we can do to honor these men who gave their all for their beloved South.

If you are not a Guardian, I urge you to seek out a Confederate Hero, whom you can honor and care for their final resting place. We have so many graves in our area that need a Guardian. Remember all these men are our brothers.

I know I beat this horse to death, but if you know me, it will continue until every Confederates Grave, not only in Upshur County, but in the State of Texas, will have an SCV brother tending it.

To be a Guardian must be your decision, not mine. If you truly want to honor our ancestors and what sacrifices they made for us, you will decide to be a Guardian.

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?*

### **\*Editor's Note\***

In last month's Newsletter I penned an article praising Six Flags over Texas for continuing to fly the 1<sup>st</sup> National Flag. I spoke too soon, they have now removed it.

## 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	GPT	17
Bill Starnes	Full/W/GPT	7

W=Wilderness GPT=Guardian Pro Tem

*More than 100,000 Americans died during the Civil War fighting for this flag and what they believed was right!*



*Love Them Or Hate Them  
They're part of our history  
and should be remembered!*

## 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.

### Law Enforcement Appreciation Day August 18, 2017

Friday, August 18, 2017 was our Second Annual Sons of Confederate Veterans Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. Commander Phil Davis and 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander David Palmer met with members of the Texas Department of Public Safety (Upshur County Office), the Upshur County Sheriff's Office, and the Gilmer Police Department. Gift baskets of coffee and snacks were presented to each agency, along with a certificate of appreciation. Our thanks was extended for all the hard work and dedication provided by our law enforcement officers and civilian employees. As last year, we were well received and enjoyed meeting old friends and making new ones.



Law Enforcement Appreciation Day –  
Upshur Co. Sheriff Department





Law Enforcement Appreciation Day –  
Gilmer P.D.



Law Enforcement Appreciation Day - Dept.  
of Public Safety



### **Revised Statement of Purpose**

From: SCV National Headquarters

*We, the Sons of Confederate Veterans, having been commissioned by the Confederate Veterans themselves, retain our responsibility and right to adhere to the founding principles of the United States of America remembering the bravery, defending the honor and protecting the memory of our beloved Confederate*

*Veterans, which includes their memorials, images, symbols, monuments and gravesites for ourselves and future generations.*

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Mrs. Norma Holley presents the poem “The Ballad of Dick Dowling” at our August meeting. Dick Dowling was an officer in the Jefferson Davis Guards and in 1863 helped recapture Galveston, Texas. Mrs. Holley is the Chartering President of the Emma Sansom chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and District VIII Chairman of Texas Division UDC.

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### **A Prayer for Confederate History**

By: Ellison Capers, Confederate General

“Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we adore thy love and providence in the history of our country, and especially would we

thank thee for our Confederate history. We thank thee for its pure record of virtue, valor and for the inspiring reflection that despite its bitter disappointments and sorrows it proclaims for us to all the world that we came through its years of trial and struggles with our battered shields pure, and nothing to regret in our defense of the rights and honor of our Southland. Give us grace, our heavenly father, faithfully to accept thy will concerning us, and make us all to glorify thee in a sincere obedience to thy holy commandments, through the merits and meditation of thy son, our only savior, Jesus Christ.”



### **Historical Dates in September**

September 12-15, 1862 – Battle at Harpers Ferry.

September 14, 1862 – Battle of South Mountain, Md.

September 17, 1862 – Battle at Antietam.

September 19-20, 1863 – Battle at Chickamauga.

September 2, 1864 – Atlanta captured by Sherman’s army.

September 21-24, 1864 – Battle of Fisher’s Hill.



Camp Librarian Jarrod Jones spoke to us about his 4<sup>th</sup> great grandfather, Confederate soldier Phillip M. Faulk. We always enjoy hearing about our member’s Confederate ancestors.



Trans-Miss. Army Commander Johnnie Holley (L) and Camp Commander Phil Davis (2<sup>nd</sup> from L) present National Commendation awards to David Palmer, Kim Duffey, Rickie Gipson, and George Linton. Also receiving awards were, Jaime Eitson and Archie “Otter” Hass (not shown).



## Removing Monuments

From: medium.com

You want to remove historical monuments from public parks. It isn't complicated. If that is not an attempt to sweep historical memories that you don't like under the carpet then what would you call it?

Actually you don't call it anything. You don't even seem to know why you think it should be done. You make no case for it except some vague nonsense about those statues being "offensive" to some people. Well you could put a statue of a giant puppy dog in the park and you could be pretty sure some idiot would be "offended." We live after all in an age where looking for reasons to be offended has become an international sport.

But you only want to remove the statues that offend you for reasons you cannot explain. I mean I can think of lots of Americans who might find statues of Washington or Roosevelt or many other famous figures from your history offensive, all for different reasons. You don't explain why you don't feel the need to remove any of them. You also don't explain who gets to decide which statues are "offensive" and which ones can remain in public.

Where is the cut off point before you get to demolishing Mount Rushmore? And yes; it is already being suggested in various publications of the "progressives" chattering classes, who will never run out of things to be "offended" by.

Are you going to pull down the White House too? A history sanitizer's work is never finished you know.

Or is it perhaps that the statue embarrasses you? Maybe you would like put it out of sight and out of mind so you don't have to be reminded of the dark parts of American history? And yes; the Jim Crow period was part of your history too and some of those confederate statues are part of that history.

I believe historical monuments should be left in place no matter what they were built to represent and no matter how evil the figure they honor. It is a very valid argument which you do not refute. You have not come up with one credible reason why they should be removed except for some touchy-feely PC gush about people being offended.

Well history is offensive. People need to grow up.

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Camp #775 McAllister, Ok. Commander and State Historian Bentley Couch (L) and Ron Clark, Upshur Co. Patriot member (R) with a flag made by Chris honoring the 31st Texas Cavalry Regiment that Ron's 2nd Great Father Robert Earp, of Upshur Co. Texas served in.





### **Group sues University of Texas over removal of Confederate statues**

From: foxnews.com

August 25, 2017

A group called the Sons of Confederate Veterans has filed a lawsuit against the University of Texas and its president over the recent removal of statues honoring three Confederate leaders and a former governor of Texas.

The group's Texas chapter argues that UT President Greg Fenves' ordered the four statues removed Sunday night in violation of the group's rights, the Dallas Morning News reported.

The removal of the statues from the school's Austin campus came one week after the deadly violence in Charlottesville, Va., where plans were made to remove a statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee.

The Texas chapter of SCV previously sued the university in 2015 over the removal of a

statue of Confederate President Jefferson Davis, the Morning News reported.

This time, however, the group is receiving help from a descendant of George Littlefield, a former UT regent and Confederate veteran whom the group claims paid for the four statues before he died in 1920.

The group argues that the statues were worth about \$250,000 combined when Littlefield commissioned them, and could be worth a combined \$3 million today.

*"The statues were part of a bequest Maj. Littlefield made to the university that included funds for the promotion of American history from the Southern perspective."*

The suit also alleges that Fenves ordered the statues removed without first seeking public input.

But Patti Ohlendorf, UT's chief lawyer, told the Austin American-Statesman that Fenves spoke with several people before ordering the statues removed.

The statues that Fenves ordered removed were of Confederate Gens. Robert E. Lee and Albert Sidney Johnston, Confederate Postmaster John H. Reagan, and James Stephen Hogg, the first native-born governor of Texas.



Blacks, who were never slaves, are fighting whites who were never Nazis, over Confederate statues erected by Southern Democrats, because now Democrats can't stand their own history anymore and somehow its Trumps fault.

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### 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 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday nights from 6pm – 8pm. Bring your instrument and join in or just come by for the music.

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Bronze Statue of Robert E. Lee at the Univ. of Texas (now removed)



### Innovations in Weaponry

From: Civil War Blog

The first machine-gun type weapon ever used in combat was built for the Confederate War Department in September 1861. The Williams breech-loading rapid-fire gun was first used at the Battle of Seven Pines and worked so well that the War Department ordered 42 more of them. The gun was actually a crank-operated, very light artillery piece that fired a one-pound (1.57caliber) projectile with a range of 2,000 yards. It was operated by a crew of three and could fire at a rate of 65 rounds per minute. One operator aimed and fired the weapon by turning the crank, the second placed a paper cartridge into the breech, and the third placed the percussion cap. The major problem with this gun was overheating, which made the breech jam due to heat expansion.





Upshur Co. Courthouse 1889

### **Upshur County Texas** **Interesting Facts**

Compiled by: B. Tabor

There was no jail in Upshur County until 1848, so criminals were either guarded by an officer or taken to the Marshall, Texas jail. One hot summer day a man was tried for murder and the jury did not bring in the verdict until dark, so the Sherriff chained him to a small tree. During the night the prisoner climbed the tree and escaped.

In the days before the "stock law" a hog died and had to be moved from the square. The town Mayor told a cowboy friend of his that he would give him \$1.00 to remove the dead hog. The cowboy tied his rope around the hog's feet and dragged it down to Sugar Creek and returned for his \$1.00. Since the Mayor did not have a dollar of "city money" on him, the cowboy was unhappy and rode back to Sugar Creek and dragged the dead hog back to the city square.

Early on, Saloons such as the Stella-Vite and the Lady Gay were an integral part if

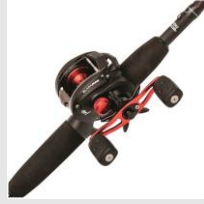
Gilmer's economy. The County was voted "dry" in 1907 by a narrow margin. Prohibition was something that agitated the county for years. This did not deter the "moonshiners" in the Big Woods of Grice. As late as the 1950's, the Big Woods was a source of "home brew".



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.





### **Friendly Reminder**

Our Texas Hunting & Fishing license expired August 31<sup>st</sup>. Remember to pick up a current license before your next outing.

### **New Texas Law**

A new law in Texas will allow people over 18 to carry knives with blades longer than 5 ½ inches in public.

That means after September 1, 2017 people possessing anything from daggers to swords will not be breaking any laws. "What this law does is it gets rid of all that grey area and simplifies the law," said AJ Postell, co-founder of Lone Star Gun Rights.

Gov. Greg Abbott recently signed House Bill 1935 into law, removing size restrictions on knife blades carried publicly by adults. "The way the law currently reads is that any knife with a blade length over 5 ½ inches is prohibited, so with the new law, it basically takes all that prohibited language off the books thus allowing knives over 5 ½ inches of blade length, also daggers, double-edged knives, dirks, even swords will soon come legal September 1," Postell said.



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



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.

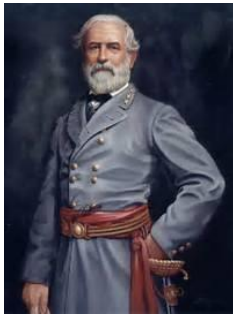
Comments or suggestions should be made to: David Palmer, Editor  
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## Views on Slavery



In a speech in Cincinnati, Ohio on September 17, 1859 Abraham Lincoln said, “I say that we must not interfere with the institution of slavery in the states where it exists, because the constitution forbids it, and the general welfare does not require us to do so. Lincoln stated that if he could “save the Union and not free the slaves” he would.



Robert E. Lee was not a slave owner and was not a proponent of slavery. In a letter dated December 27, 1856 he wrote, “There are few, I believe, in this enlightened age, who will not acknowledge that slavery as an institution is a moral and political evil.”

### Confederate Monuments Removed

Excerpts from an article by: Will Drabold

In the weeks after the “Unite the Right” rally in Charlottesville, at least 22

Confederate monuments have been removed from public spaces across the country. From California to Ohio and Maryland to Florida, monuments that critics say celebrate slavery have been pulled down by protesters and quietly removed in the dark of night by local governments.

At least 29 Confederate monuments have been removed from public land in 2017 alone (a 30th was relocated from public land in one Kentucky city to another).

### In Texas

Amarillo: An online petition is calling for the removal of a Confederate monument.

Austin: A rally is planned for early September to support the preservation of a Confederate monument near the state capitol. A larger, counter-protest is also planned.

On Sunday, Aug. 20, at the University of Texas at Austin, three statues of Confederate leaders were removed by the university.

Dallas: A day before the event in Charlottesville began; protesters in Dallas called for the removal of a Confederate monument.

Houston: Petitioners want a Spirit of the Confederacy monument removed from Sam Houston Park.

San Antonio: A crowd called for the removal of a Confederate statue following the violence in Charlottesville.