



# Patriots Periodical

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

Vol. 2, No. 10

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October 2015

## COMMANDER'S CORNER

*by Eddie "Spook" Pricer*



Happy Halloween! Well it will be, later in the month. I look forward to this time of year, not too hot and not too cold. This is the time of year to relax a bit, enjoy the fruits of our labors and contemplate the changing colors of the foliage.

The green represents continued growth and survival. The amber is the harvest of our hard work. Brown represents, hmmm, well just watch where you walk. But red in all its glory and beauty alerts us to the danger ahead.

Take a moment to savor the nature that surrounds us, but be ever vigilant of those amongst us who would take our heritage and heap disdain and recriminations upon Southerners. Use this time of reflection to prepare your defense, as you would till your garden for next year. Take time to plan responses as well as initiatives aimed at promoting and protecting our history.

We must expand our reach, our resolve and our commitment to "The Charge". Fly a flag, wear an SCV hat, recruit new members, or learn a simple response to

pose to the haters. I had the opportunity to attend a meeting of the new Lt. David R. Reynolds Camp in Mt. Pleasant on the 21<sup>st</sup> of September, where several thought provoking and stirring speeches were made.

5<sup>th</sup> Brigade 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Commander Phil Maynard had an interesting posit, we have two choices as Southern men. I'm paraphrasing, but essentially it was stand up, join the SCV and protect your heritage or tuck your tail and slink away. Commander Maynard put it much more eloquently, but his message was its time to fight.

The political elite, the politically correct and the ill-informed are attacking our heritage and because we are a small group, we could be easily overwhelmed. This is nothing new, in World War II, the Germans focused on the gypsies and the mentally ill. These were sections of society that the masses ignored, overlooked or despised. When no one stood up, larger groups were targeted and freedoms melted away, one by one. Sadly, similar encroachments and then attacks on our liberty have occurred in our own country, hence the American Revolution and then the War for Southern Independence. Be a gentleman, be chivalrous, but be firm and hold your ground.

\*Give What You Can to Heritage Defense\*

## *The Guardian*

*By Phil Davis*



At our next meeting we will be presenting nine more Guardian Certificates to one of our members. To me this is one of the highlights of our meetings. I hope you are as proud of this as I am. Guarding the final resting place of our Confederate Heroes is one of the most noble and rewarding aspects of being in the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

What I want to talk about this month is how we came to have the Guardian Program in Texas.

Back in 1993 The South Carolina Division instituted a program called the Guardian Program. Its aim and intention was to acknowledge, not reward, those compatriots who went beyond the call of duty to care for and honor our Confederate hero's final resting places. A few years later the National Guardian Program was formed using the same criteria that South Carolina had formulated. The National program is

for States that do not have a program or those that live outside of the States (yes we have Confederates that are buried in other countries).

In 2012 I talked to then Division Commander Granvel Block about Texas forming our own Guardian Program. He was very receptive as well as the Division Executive Committee. It was approved and you know who was appointed as chairman. I began the process of developing an application, certificate and the designing of a medal to present to Full Guardians. The medal itself is identical to South Carolina except the word Texas is used in place of South Carolina. We also used a black ribbon attached to the medal. The words around the medal are "SCV Guardian Texas" and on the bottom "Final Bivouac". The Rules and Guidelines are almost identical to those used by South Carolina. I did not do all this by myself; I had help from Compatriot Dennis Todd, then Chairman of the National Guardian Program. I still rely on his knowledge and expertise. Compatriot Todd was one of the Founding Fathers of both the South Carolina and National Guardian Programs.

We here in Texas have a good and sound program. We now have 391 completed applications on file. I am very proud of what our camp and the Texas Division have

accomplished in these few short years. I urge you to keep up the good work and always remember "It is your duty to insure that the true history of the South is preserved for future generations".

As I always say, I believe with all my being in the Guardian Program and I hope that in some small way I can convince you of its importance in fulfilling "The Charge". We must, now more than ever, show the world that we care about our Southern Heritage and the Valiant Heroes that fought to preserve it.

As always I leave you with this question:

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

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### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday, October 6th, at 7:00 p.m.  
Refreshments at 6:30 p.m.  
Hadden's Sandwich Shop  
On the Square, Gilmer, Texas

#### **Cemetery Memorial**

Saturday Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> Hopewell Cemetery in  
Winnsboro. Service at 10 AM, Color Guard  
members assemble at 9 AM

#### **Gilmer Yamboree Parade**

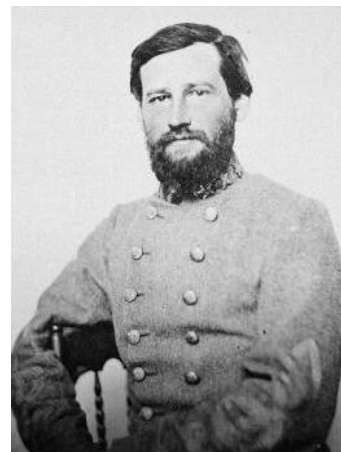
Saturday Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>, Gilmer, Texas. Parade  
starts at 11 AM, assemble at 9 AM.

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### **Our Charge...**

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

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



**Lt. General Stephen D. Lee**

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**Dues Renewal**

It's that time again. Most of you will have received your dues invoice within the last few weeks. Several of our newest members paid the prorated amount and will not receive an invoice as they have paid through July 2015. Second Lieutenant Commander Don Loyd is now in charge of recruiting and retention and as such he will be reminding each of you the importance and necessity for dues payment, along with the timely response. Please remit your dues payment to Adjutant Rickie Gipson as soon as possible. If you are a bit of a foot dragger, don't be surprised to receive a reminder call or letter. Also, additional donations may be made to help fund several other ongoing projects. Please give generously as these are worthwhile endeavors. Remember, your dues and gifts are deductible. We are a qualified 501.C.3 tax exempt organization.

## Famous Confederate Quotes

### From the American Revival

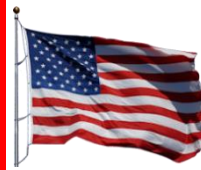
Our government is an agency of delegated and strictly limited powers. Its founders did not look to its preservation by force; but the chain they wove to bind these States together was one of love and mutual good offices.

Jefferson Davis



Compatriot Kim Duffey being presented with his Guardian Certificate by Phil Davis for Paul Hamilton's Grave.

## 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.







## TOUGH TIMES CALL FOR GREATER STRENGTH

### PROVERBS 24:10,16

"If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small."

"for a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again..."

Setbacks occur from time to time for all industrious persons. We are not guaranteed a trouble-free life, but we are equipped with substance to bounce-back; to improve on a present situation. It is called: character!

The "just man" rises, again and again when he falters; because he understands finishing the task is the most important thing to do at the moment. No matter what happens, the Lord has promised to sustain us:

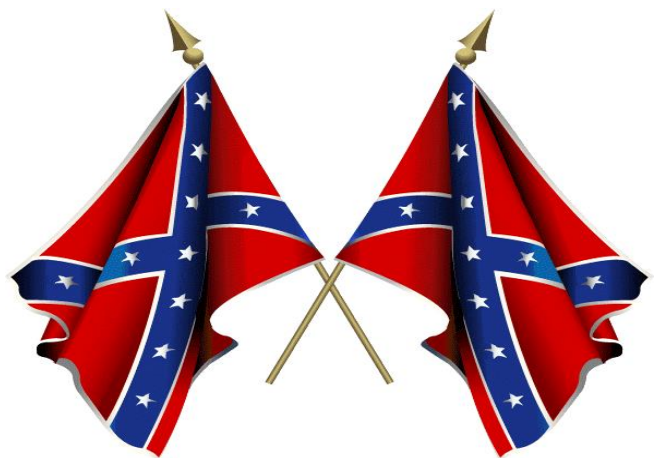
"We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed ; we are perplexed, but not in despair; perplexed but not persecuted but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed."

2 Corinthians 4: 8,9

When a man loses courage, his strength is diminished and cannot help him. A good soldier will endure the tough times.

To be remiss in helping a friend in need has in it the recipe for Character weakness; resulting in the lose of strength to sustain One self in his own affliction. Study to learn; learn to give; strive to improve; improve thoughtfulness.

Jamie Eitson, Chaplain





At our September meeting, Compatriot Joseph Moss (grandson of Compatriot Ronnie Hill) briefs members on his activities last summer at the Sam Davis Youth Camp.

**Please remember to donate canned goods and non-perishable items for our Christmas boxes. Your donations can help a needy family have a better Christmas.**

Lieutenant David R. Reynolds Camp  
Mount Pleasant, Texas

On Monday September 21<sup>st</sup>, several members from the East Texas and Northeast Texas Brigades attended a chartering meeting for the newly forming Lieutenant David R. Reynolds Camp in Mount Pleasant, Texas. There were approximately 45 people in attendance including Past Division Commander Johnnie Holley and Brigade Commanders Sam Mercer and Dennis Brand.

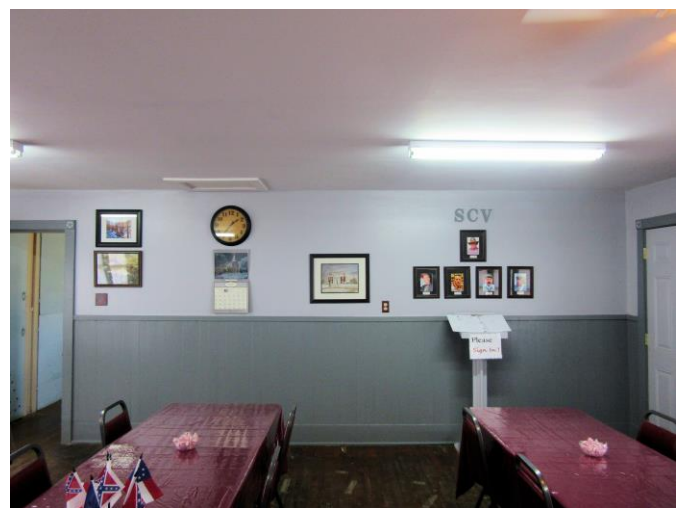
Camp officers were sworn in and they were able to recruit some new members at the publicly advertised event. They even had a real grandson attend and it appears he will be joining also. That would be special to have two real grandsons in our Brigade.



New members Michael Peppers and Michael Mars being sworn in by Commander Eddie Pricer and Brigade Commander Sam Mercer.

Although our loss of three of our members to the new Camp will momentarily lessen the ranks of the Upshur County Patriots, it is a supreme gain for the Division, Brigade and the SCV as a whole. We look forward to many exciting and challenging projects with the Lieutenant David R. Reynolds Camp and wish them well and Gods speed in their endeavors.

They have worked hard to refurbish an old school turned community center and several pictures of their meeting room are provided. The Camp still has work to do on the remainder of the building, but they are off to a great start and are to be commended.





## Hadden's Sandwich Shop

101 W. Tyler St.

Gilmer, Texas



A big thank you to Jason and Valerie Roberts, owners of Hadden's Sandwich Shop, for graciously allowing us to hold our monthly meetings at their establishment.

