



Patriots Periodical

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

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October 2016

Best Newsletter Award

**Texas Division Sons of Confederate Veterans
June 2016 Reunion**

COMMANDER'S CORNER

by Phil Davis



Greetings Upshur County Patriots and friends, October is here, the trees are beginning to drop leaves and I am still praying for some cool weather. Our fund raising activities are in full swing and we have many events this month.

I attended the quarterly DEC (Division Executive Council) meeting in Madisonville, Texas on September 17th. For those that have never been, Madisonville is just off of Interstate 45 a bit east of College Station, as the buzzard flies. Accompanying me was 5th Brigade 2nd Lieutenant George Linton, ATM and Division Chaplain Don Majors and Chauffeur Eddie Pricer. This was one of those trips that you were thankful to be home so that your sides might recover from all the laughter.

While at meeting, updates were provided on the license plate project, the Fort Lancaster cemetery marker issues, Confederate Reunion Grounds state historic site near Mexia, a Division Store and upcoming reunions to name a few. Various financial issues were discussed including fund raising. We were allowed the opportunity to promote our fund raising project and to display the knife and scabbard provided by Jamie Eitson and Otter Hass. We received many donations.

For those of you that have not yet reviewed the latest issue of the Confederate Veteran Magazine please take the time to do so. I urge you to especially read the article by Commander-in-Chief Thos. V. Strain Jr. and the article by our neighbor and friend, Lieutenant Commander-in-Chief Paul C. Gramling, Jr. of Louisiana. Both are very inspirational and challenge us to persevere in fulfilling the "Charge"

Our elections are rapidly approaching next month. I hope each of you that are eligible to hold office will give it careful consideration. When the nominating committee contacts you be ready to step up and move forward into a position of

leadership. Don't worry there will be others that are ready and willing to help you. If you are interested contact me and give us your intentions.

As you know by now our dues are due. After October 31st, there is a \$5.00 penalty. If you are having financial difficulties, let us know and maybe we can assist in some way. We need a 100% reenlistment. **We need you!** Our worst foe is the lack of retention. Until last year, the Division would gain 40 new members but lose 50 each year. **The future of the SCV is you.**

Remember as our membership grows do your part; make our new members feel welcome. Remember a friendly camp is a busy camp and a busy camp will gain more members while retaining our present membership. Move around the room and greet everyone. If you don't know someone, introduce yourself and welcome them. Try sitting at a different table each meeting. If you see someone sitting by their self, go over and sit with them. We want everyone to feel at home.

Don't forget about our next meeting on October 4th. I always look forward to the first Tuesday of the month. **Bring a friend with you.**

Until then, I leave you with this question, have you talked to some one about joining our camp or another SCV camp?

Well, Why Not?

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT MEETING

October 4, 2016
Meeting at 7 PM
Walking S Steakhouse

Gilmer Yamboree Parade

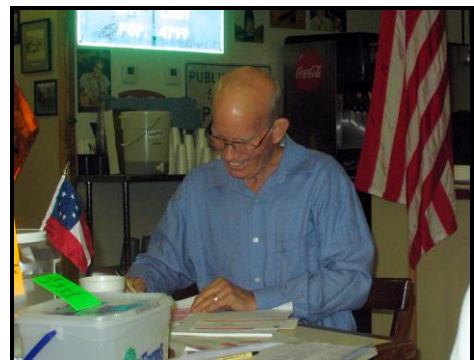
Saturday October 22, 2016
Muster 9:30 AM Parade Starts at 11 AM

Graveside Memorial

Hughes Springs Cemetery
Saturday October 29, 2016
Muster at 10 AM

Graveside Memorial

Concord Cemetery
Omaha, TX.
Saturday October 29, 2016
Muster at 2 PM



Welcome back to Camp Adjutant Rickie Gipson. You were missed and we appreciate the work you do for our Camp and the SCV.



The Guardian

By Phil Davis

Again, in this October article I want to focus on you, the Upshur County Patriots, and your involvement and support of the Texas Division Guardian Program. I know you might be a little tired of me harping on this subject, but you see, it is very important to our Camp. Many of you are dedicated to the preservation of our Confederate Heroes Final Resting Places. They gave all for our beloved Southland and our way of life. We need to return their perseverance, with our own in fulfilling the "Charge".

As I did last month, I am going to list those of us that have formally chosen to protect these final resting places of our Confederate Heroes. I look forward to seeing your name on the list. If it's not yet there, I urge you to join us. There have been 3 more applications approved in the month of September.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Guardian Status</u>	<u>Number of Graves</u>
Phil Davis	Full	29
Kim Duffey	Full	3
Jaime Eitson	Full	1
Larry Harper	Full	1
Jared Jones	Full	1
Justin Jones	Full	1
Chris Loyd	Full	5
George Linton	Full/W/GPT	35
Eddie Pricer	Full/GPT	17
Milt Ojeman	Full/GPT	4
David Palmer	Full	1
Bill Palmer	Full	10
Tommy Ray	GPT	17
Bill Starnes	Full/W/G	7

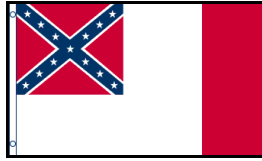
As you can see our Camp is taking care of 132 final resting places. **We can do more.** This is one of the easiest ways of doing your part to fulfill the Charge. If you are not sure or don't understand please contact me. Remember I will meet you at 2:00 AM in the morning, if I can get Eddie or George up to drive.

As I always say, I believe with all my being in the Guardian Program and I hope that in some way you will be convinced of its importance in fulfilling "The Charge".

As always, I leave you with this question;

Are you a Guardian? If not, why not?

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.



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

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

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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.

Comments or suggestions should be made to: David Palmer, Editor

david.palmer@upshurpatriots.org



Welcome back to Camp Chaplain Larry Harper. Your presence has been missed.



This month's article comes to us from:

Chaplain-In-Chief
SCV National Headquarters

As Confederate Americans with strong Christian faith we are faced with challenging days. Our faith, of course, continues to be attacked. There are Christians in certain parts of the world who are dying for their faith. In our own country we view contemporary culture "chipping" away at the moral fiber of biblical truth. What was once discussed only in the closed areas of society is now brought forth into bright light for public display. If one speaks for life, morality, integrity, and purity, that

one can be called "hateful, unloving, and prejudice." Our faith is under attack.

In addition our Confederate heritage is assaulted each day. Flags are being removed. Monuments are being taken down. Street names are being changed. Athletic team mascots are discarded. School names are altered. One who speaks out against this type of uncontrolled hysteria can be branded as "a racist filled with vile hatred." Our Confederate heritage is under attack.

In view of these attacks, let the word go forth. We are people of faith and we will not change or abandon our beliefs. We are people of Southern Heritage and we will not apologize for honoring the Confederate soldier, defending his good name, emulating his virtues, or perpetuating those principles he loved, for we love those same principles. In 1861 the South took a bold stand for freedom, liberty, justice, and self-determination. The easy path, the path of least resistance, and the path without sacrifice would be the path of capitulation. This path the South refused to walk. They took the difficult path and the path of sacrifice; but they had to -- it was the path of truth, honor, duty, and valor.

We are their decedents. Their blood flows in our veins. Their sacred honor is in our hands to defend; and this we will do. We will not go away quietly. We will speak out. We will parade our colors. We will defend our monuments and yes we will build more.

For each Confederate flag unjustly removed, we will post two in its place. Confederate Americans are not going away. The hope of our land is found in Southern ways, ways which reflect faith in God, integrity of character, and boldness of spirit.

Our Christian faith leads us to prayer in times of adversity. Many were the prayer meetings on the battlefields of the 1860s. Confederate soldiers and their chaplains banded together at the throne of God to seek His will, guidance, wisdom, protection, and grace. In this time of struggle, we will not do less! We will be found at God's throne on our knees praying for our country and praying for our SCV leaders. We must be steady in faith and strong in heritage in the midst of injustice, tyranny, and prejudice.

During these challenging days I know that we will be in prayer for the good men serving on the GEC. They are called upon to make extremely important decisions and certainly need the guidance of the Lord.

Deo Vindice!
Ray L. Parker
Chaplain-in-Chief

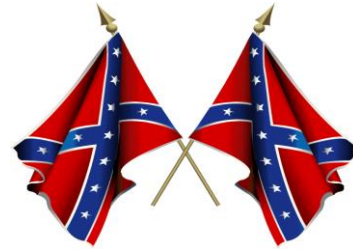




Bailey Loyd shares her experiences from the Sam Davis Youth Camp at our September meeting. Bailey is the daughter of Past Camp Commander Chris Loyd and the granddaughter of 1st Lt. Commander Don Loyd. Having 3 generations of the Loyd Family at our September meeting made for a special night.



Compatriot Jared Jones presents our September Program on his recent travels to Richmond and beyond.



Historical Dates in October

October 2, 1861 Battle of Saltville Virginia

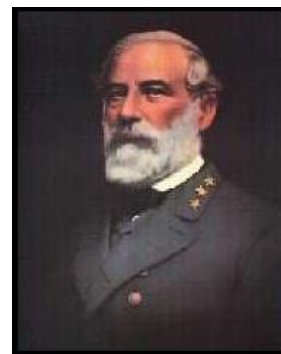
October 1-3 1862 Battle of St. John's Bluff

October 16, 1863 General Ulysses Grant is appointed to command all operations in the Western Theater.

October 19, 1864 The St. Albans Raid

October 19, 1864 Battle of Cedar Creek

October 27-28, 1864 Battle of Burgess Mill



Gen. Robert E. Lee

January 19, 1807 – October 12, 1870
General – in – Chief of Confederate forces.

Historical Ignorance I & II

Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia, and is a member of the Board of Advisors for the Media Research Center's Free Market Project.



Part I

The victors of war write its history in order to cast themselves in the most favorable light. That explains the considerable historical ignorance about our war of 1861 and panic over the Confederate flag. To create better understanding, we have to start a bit before the 1787 Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia.

The 1783 Treaty of Paris ended the war between the colonies and Great Britain. Its first article declared the 13 colonies "to be free, sovereign and independent states." These 13 sovereign nations came together in 1787 as principals and created the federal government as their agent. Principals have always held the right to fire agents. In other words, states held a right to withdraw from the pact —secede.

During the 1787 Constitutional Convention, a proposal was made that would allow the

federal government to suppress a seceding state. James Madison rejected it, saying, "A union of the states containing such an ingredient seemed to provide for its own destruction. The use of force against a state would look more like a declaration of war than an infliction of punishment and would probably be considered by the party attacked as a dissolution of all previous compacts by which it might be bound."

In fact, the ratification documents of Virginia, New York and Rhode Island explicitly said they held the right to resume powers delegated should the federal government become abusive of those powers. The Constitution never would have been ratified if states thought they could not regain their sovereignty, in a word, secede.

On March 2, 1861, after seven states seceded and two days before Abraham Lincoln's inauguration, Sen. James R. Doolittle of Wisconsin proposed a constitutional amendment that read, "No state or any part thereof, heretofore admitted or hereafter admitted into the union, shall have the power to withdraw from the jurisdiction of the United States."

Several months earlier, Reps. Daniel E. Sickles of New York, Thomas B. Florence of Pennsylvania and Otis S. Ferry of Connecticut proposed a constitutional amendment to prohibit secession. Here's a question for the reader: Would there have been any point to offering these

amendments if secession were already unconstitutional?

On the eve of the War of 1861, even unionist politicians saw secession as a right of states. Rep. Jacob M. Kunkel of Maryland said, "Any attempt to preserve the union between the states of this Confederacy by force would be impractical, and destructive of republican liberty."

Both Northern Democratic and Republican Parties favored allowing the South to secede in peace. Just about every major Northern newspaper editorialized in favor of the South's right to secede. New York Tribune (Feb. 5, 1860): "If tyranny and despotism justified the Revolution of 1776, then we do not see why it would not justify the secession of Five Millions of Southern's from the Federal Union in 1861." Detroit Free Press (Feb. 19, 1861): "An attempt to subjugate the seceded states, even if successful, could produce nothing but evil — evil unmitigated in character and appalling in content." The New York Times (March 21, 1861): "There is growing sentiment throughout the North in favor of letting the Gulf States go."

The War of 1861 settled the issue of secession through brute force that cost 600,000 American lives. We Americans celebrate Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, but H.L. Mencken correctly evaluated the speech: "It is poetry, not logic; beauty, not sense." Lincoln said the soldiers sacrificed their lives "to the cause

of self-determination — that government of the people, by the people, for the people should not perish from the earth." Mencken says: "It is difficult to imagine anything more untrue. The Union soldiers in the battle actually fought against self-determination; it was the Confederates who fought for the right of people to govern themselves."

The War of 1861 brutally established that states could not secede. We are still living with its effects. Because states cannot secede, the federal government can run roughshod over the U.S. Constitution's limitations of the Ninth and Tenth Amendments. States have little or no response.

Part II

We call the war of 1861 the Civil War. But is that right? A civil war is a struggle between two or more entities trying to take over the central government. Confederate President Jefferson Davis no more sought to take over Washington, D.C., than George Washington sought to take over London in 1776. Both wars, those of 1776 and 1861, were wars of independence. Such recognition does not require one to sanction the horrors of slavery. We might ask how much of the war was about slavery?

Was President Abraham Lincoln really for outlawing slavery? Let's look at his words. In an 1858 letter, Lincoln said, "I have declared a thousand times, and now repeat

that, in my opinion neither the General Government, nor any other power outside of the slave states, can constitutionally or rightfully interfere with slaves or slavery where it already exists." In a Springfield, Illinois, speech, he explained: "My declarations upon this subject of Negro slavery may be misrepresented but cannot be misunderstood. I have said that I do not understand the Declaration (of Independence) to mean that all men were created equal in all respects." Debating Sen. Stephen Douglas, Lincoln said, "I am not, nor ever have been, in favor of making voters or jurors of Negroes nor of qualifying them to hold office nor to intermarry with white people; and I will say in addition to this that there is a physical difference between the white and black races, which I believe will forever forbid the two races living together on terms of social and political equality."

What about Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation? Here are his words: "I view the matter (of slaves' emancipation) as a practical war measure, to be decided upon according to the advantages or disadvantages it may offer to the suppression of the rebellion." He also wrote: "I will also concede that emancipation would help us in Europe, and convince them that we are incited by something more than ambition." When Lincoln first drafted the proclamation, war was going badly for the Union.

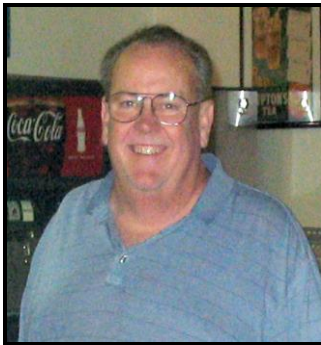
London and Paris were considering recognizing the Confederacy and assisting it in its war against the Union.

The Emancipation Proclamation was not a universal declaration. It specifically detailed where slaves were to be freed: only in those states "in rebellion against the United States." Slaves remained slaves in states not in rebellion — such as Kentucky, Maryland, Delaware and Missouri. The hypocrisy of the Emancipation Proclamation came in for heavy criticism. Lincoln's own secretary of state, William Seward, sarcastically said, "We show our sympathy with slavery by emancipating slaves where we cannot reach them and holding them in bondage where we can set them free."

Lincoln did articulate a view of secession that would have been heartily endorsed by the Confederacy: "Any people anywhere, being inclined and having the power, have the right to rise up and shake off the existing government and form a new one that suits them better. ... Nor is this right confined to cases in which the whole people of an existing government may choose to exercise it. Any portion of such people that can may revolutionize and make their own of so much of the territory as they inhabit." Lincoln expressed that view in an 1848 speech in the U.S. House of Representatives, supporting the war with Mexico and the secession of Texas.

Why didn't Lincoln share the same feelings about Southern secession? Following the

money might help with an answer. Throughout most of our nation's history, the only sources of federal revenue were excise taxes and tariffs. During the 1850s, tariffs amounted to 90 percent of federal revenue. Southern ports paid 75 percent of tariffs in 1859. What "responsible" politician would let that much revenue go? Dr. Williams' writings may be found on many internet sites and they are worth the time to locate and read.



Thank you to Past Camp Commander Eddie Pricer for filling in as Adjutant when needed. Eddie is involved in many "behind the scenes" tasks that benefit our Camp and the SCV.

"It is the duty of the patriot to protect his country from its government." – Thomas Paine (1737-1809)

"My reading of history convinces me that most bad government results from too much government." – Thomas Jefferson.



New members Rick "Bear" Umfleet (red shirt) and Cory Todd (far R) are sworn in by 1st Lt. Commander Don Loyd (on L) and Commander Phil Davis (2nd from L) at our September Meeting.

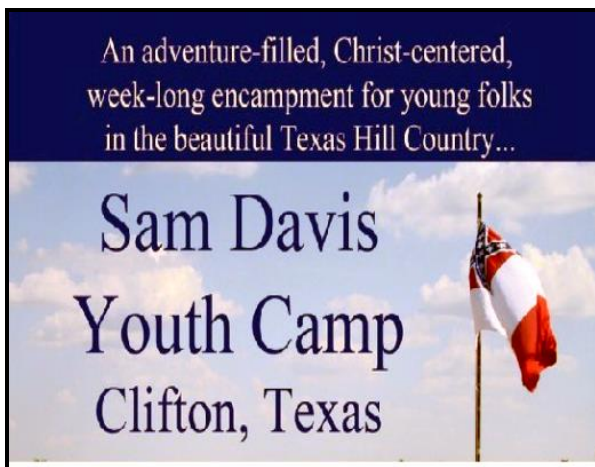


5th Brigade 2nd Lt. Commander George Linton (on L) briefs us on upcoming events and functions for the month of October as Commander Phil Davis looks on.



Editor's Note

Some of our camp members and others perform an Acoustic Music Jam twice a month. This takes place at the Walking S Steakhouse on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of each month from 6pm – 8pm. Bring your instrument and join in or just come and enjoy the music. A family friendly environment.



Donations for the Sam Davis Youth Camp fund may be made to: Upshur Co. Patriots, P.O. Box 472, Gilmer, TX. 75644
Phil Davis, Commander.



Confederate Memorial of the Wind

The Confederate Memorial of the Wind is a planned memorial to the Confederate States of America and the Texas Regiments of the Confederate Army. It began construction on private land in 2013 in Orange, Texas near the Beaumont – Port Arthur metropolitan area.

The memorial is on private land adjacent to Interstate 10, on Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. It has 13 columns, one for each Confederate State, arranged in a circle. It will display 32 flags representing U.S. Civil War units from Texas, along with eight large Confederate flags visible from the highway. The project is sponsored by the Texas Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Proponents, led by Granvel Block, say the project will honor Civil War veterans and educate visitors on history, and say that the location was chosen for low cost. Opponents have condemned the memorial because of slavery, and because they say its location is provocative. The city approved the plan on free-speech grounds.

Donations are solicited in exchange for memorial plaques and paving bricks. No date is set for its completion, which depends on funding. The original budget was \$50,000. By 2015, it already received enough visitors to cause parking congestion in the neighborhood. As of June 2016, the main structure is in place and only some flagpoles and a walkway were not in place.



Best Website 2016
Camps Over 50 Members



Awards from Texas Division Sons of
Confederate Veterans



Best Newsletter 2016
Camps Over 50 Members

Excerpts from "Defending the Colors"

From: The Department of the Army of Northern Virginia

"It is distressing to find so many in the United States willing to bow to the demands of the disenchanted on the issue of cleansing the red, white and blue of the Confederate battle flag."

"Knee-jerking sloganeering riles more emotions than does a substantive analysis of the facts."

"Merely because one segment views the Confederate battle flag as being a sign of hatred and slavery it does not make it so."

"History, after all, is not the past but only the present account of it -- an account that may say less about the subject than about the period in which it was written."



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



East Texas Yamboree Festival
October 19 – 22, 2016
Gilmer, Texas



Come out and visit our booth at the 2016 Yamboree Festival. We will be located by the Civic Center.



Thank you to the Starnes family and everyone at the Walking S Steakhouse for their hospitality and providing a great meeting place for the Upshur County Patriots. Serving great food on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

