



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

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November 2016

**\*Best Newsletter Award\***

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

**COMMANDER'S CORNER**

*by Phil Davis*



November is here and it's time to get ready for Thanksgiving. As Americans we have so many things to be thankful for. Even with all the trouble going on in our country, we still live in the best country. If you have ever been to other countries, you will know what I mean! We have freedom, sometimes too much, that allows us to worship, own property and so many other freedoms, it would be hard to list them all. This month, we will elect a new President. No matter what your choice is I hope you vote.

Our camp elections are also held in November. I hope each of you that are eligible to hold office will give it careful consideration. If the nominating committee has contacted you, 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. The nominating committee will present a slate of candidates, but each office will be open to nominations from the floor. Go to our web site and see what offices we have and the duties of each. This information is in our Constitution and By-Laws.

In October, I asked our Editor David Palmer to forward a letter from National Lt. Commander Grambling. I hope you read it as he explains just how important you are to the SCV. Our dues are due! After October 31<sup>st</sup>, there is a \$6.00 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 growing 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 themselves, go over and sit with them. We want everyone to feel at home. As Bill Starnes spoke at our last meeting, He emphasized the fact that we are family!

Don't forget about our next meeting on November 1st. 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?**

\*Give What You Can to Heritage Defense\*

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **NEXT MEETING**

November 1, 2016

Meeting at 7 PM

Walking S Steakhouse

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



### **The Guardian By Phil Davis**

Very often you have heard me say that the Guardian Program is doing very well. I am receiving applications for the Guardian Program weekly. As you can see by the two previous month's articles, the Upshur County Patriots have supported the program extremely well. Gentlemen as Chairman and Commander, I won't be satisfied until every Patriot is a Guardian. I am proud of you, but we can do a little better.

In this article, I am going to focus a little on how our 5<sup>th</sup> Brigade is doing. Out of 605 applications submitted, 332 of them come from the 5<sup>th</sup> Brigade. I don't know if it's how involved our Brigade is with fulfilling the Charge or if it is because I have been able to visit more with our fellow camps in the brigade. In either case I am proud of the 5<sup>th</sup> Brigade.

There are eleven brigades in the Texas Division. I can report that each of the other ten brigades have at least one application submitted. The Guardian Review

Committee is composed of a member from each brigade. They are the ones that approve/disapprove all applications. They also help me in spreading the word about the Guardian Program.

As the Guardian Program Chairman, I say the program is growing and our Confederate Heroes' final resting places are secure and will be honored and tended to far beyond our life span. *"Lest We Forget"*.

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 Ancestors. As always, I leave you with this question-

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 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/GPT	7

W=Wilderness  
Grave

GPT=Guardian Pro  
Tem

### **Camp Leadership Upshur County Patriots Camp #2109**

#### **Commander**

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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.



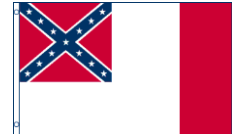
### **PLEDGE TO THE TEXAS FLAG:**

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.



### 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.





From Dr. Ray L. Parker  
Chaplain-in-Chief  
Sons of Confederate Veterans

As Christians and as members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans we take historical accuracy very seriously. We know there are those who *misrepresent* "the faith which was once delivered unto the saints" (Jude 1:3). And we must respond with due diligence proclaiming the truth of God's eternal Word. Probably the most direct declaration of the simplicity of salvation is found in the words of the Apostle John. John, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, wrote, "And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God" (I John 5:11-13). This is the message we will preach -- though others may preach another message.

In regard to Southern heritage, we must also take a bold, decisive stand. Our Confederate ancestors acted with integrity,

honesty, bravery, and duty in the face of a tyrannical Federal government -- a challenge which still confronts all freedom loving Americans yet today. We will not bow our heads in shame at the word *Confederate*. We will not become involved in "an eternal apology" for the brave acts of our ancestors. We will defend our rights to speak freely. We will defend our monuments. We will fly our flag. Each of these items represents historic accuracy.



Tommy Mitchell (on Rt.) is sworn in at our October Meeting. 1st Lt. Commander, Don Loyd (On L) and Commander Phil Davis (Ctr.) administer the Oath.

"We Sons of Confederate Veterans pledge ourselves to perpetuate the memory of our Confederate ancestors, who by their sacrifices established the Confederate States of America and fought to preserve their declared independence."



## **Obituary of America**

Preface and Closing by Eddie Pricer

The following article was penned by an unknown author and has circumnavigated the internet countless times, I'm sure. This commentary deals with the thoughts of two scholars, Alexander Tyler and Joseph Olsen from the University of Edinburgh and Hamline University of Law. They discuss the nature of a democracy and its inevitable demise unless stringent actions are taken. Only the portion of the article relating to their discussions is included and the political statement at the end was deleted.

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In 1887 Alexander Tyler, a Scottish history professor at the University of Edinburgh, had this to say about the fall of the Athenian Republic some 2,000 years prior: "A democracy is always temporary in nature; it simply cannot exist as a permanent form of government. A democracy will continue to exist up until the time that voters discover that they can vote themselves generous gifts from the public treasury. From that moment on, the majority always votes for the candidates who promise the most benefits from the public treasury, with the result that every democracy will finally collapse over loose fiscal policy, (which is) always followed by a dictatorship."

"The average age of the world's greatest civilizations from the beginning of history, has been about 200 years. During those 200 years, these nations always progressed through the following sequence:

From bondage to spiritual faith;  
From spiritual faith to great courage;  
From courage to liberty;  
From liberty to abundance;  
From abundance to complacency;  
From complacency to apathy;  
From apathy to dependence;  
From dependence back into bondage."

The Obituary follows:

### **"The United States of America" Born 1776 - Died 2016**

It doesn't hurt to read the following several times:

Professor Joseph Olson of Hamline University School of Law in St. Paul, Minnesota, points out some interesting facts concerning the last Presidential election:

Number of States won by:

Obama: 19                      Romney: 29

Square miles of land won by:

Obama: 580,000      Romney: 2,427,000

Population of counties won by:

Obama: 127 million Romney: 143 million

Murder rate per 100,000 residents in counties won by:

Obama: 13.2                  Romney: 2.1

Professor Olson adds: "In aggregate, the map of the territory Romney won was mostly the land owned by the taxpaying citizens of the country. Obama territory mostly encompassed those citizens living in low income tenements and living off various forms of government welfare."

Olson believes the United States is now somewhere between the "complacency and apathy" phase of Professor Tyler's definition of Democracy, with some forty percent of the nation's population already having reached the "governmental dependency" phase.

\*\*\*\*\*

If you do not take decisive action now and in the near term future, our grandchildren and great grandchildren will be faced with a world far worse than reconstruction faced by our forebears and its telltale remnants that still haunt us yet today. Take a stand and begin with voting and follow it up with a strong dose of holding officials accountable. Remember, in our Charge there is a section that reads as follows, "the perpetuation of those principles which he loved." The principles he fought for were the same as those that our original colonial ancestors fought for, freedom of the people to be safe from a tyrannical and dictatorial government. Although the outcome of this

election is still in doubt, the turmoil and fervent protestations by the former silent majority leads me to believe that we can still force the process Alexander Tyler's sequence of the decline of a democracy demonstrates, to move back to a time where the government was fiscally responsible, along with its citizens standing on their own two feet.



3rd Lt. Commander and Founding Member Bill Starnes addresses our October Meeting.



**Editor's Note:** For most of East Texas, Whitetail Deer season begins on November 5. We should all make sure our gear is sound and our rifles true. Let's be mindful of game laws and courteous to others enjoying the woods this fall. And above all, be safe!



Founding Fathers

“The Constitution shall never be construed... to prevent the people of the United States who are peaceable citizens from keeping their own arms.” – Samuel Adams

“A militia, when properly formed, is in fact the people themselves ...” – Richard Henry Lee

“The people are not to be disarmed of their weapons. They are left in full possession of them.”- Zachariah Johnson

#### Historical Dates in November

November 23-25, 1863 Battle for Chattanooga.

November 26, 1863 The Mine Run Campaign begins.

November 27, 1863 the Siege of Knoxville.

November 16, 1864 Sherman’s Army begins the “March to the Sea.”

November 30, 1864 the Battle of Franklin, Tenn.



#### Upshur County Patriots H. C. “Boogie” Feagin Memorial Food Drive Food

The Upshur County Patriots will again collect food donations and continue the Christmas Food Basket ministry begun by the late Boogie Feagin in his honor. The H.C. “Boogie” Feagin Memorial Christmas Food Basket Ministry last year was again a success, based on the smiles and tears of joy from those receiving a helping hand.

With that in mind, please open your hearts again and bring non-perishable can and box goods to the November and December meetings. Please make your donations as soon as possible; it makes it much easier on those preparing the baskets and determining what last minute items are needed to complete the bounty. As last year, we expect to prepare and donate 5-7 baskets.

Thanks in advance.

*Phil Davis*

Comments or suggestions should be made to:  
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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.



At this year's Gilmer Yamboree Festival members of the Upshur Co. Patriots Camp, Stone Fort Camp and John Gregg Camp assemble for the Parade.



2016 Gilmer Yamboree Parade



2016 Gilmer Yamboree Parade  
Thank you to John Ash for bringing his artillery for display in the parade.



Thank you to everyone that participated and helped with our booth at the Yamboree Festival 2016.



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.



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



**\*Don't Forget To Vote!\***



**Best Newsletter Award  
June 2016  
Camps Over 50 Members**



**Best Website Award  
June 2016  
Camps Over 50 Members**