

PATRIOT'S PERIODICAL
UPSHUR CO. PATRIOTS CAMP #2109
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS
GILMER, TEXAS

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DECEMBER 2018



Best Newsletter Award 2nd Place

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



Best Newsletter Award 1st Place

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



Merry Christmas



**COMMANDER'S
CORNER**

By Milt Ojeman



We just celebrated Thanksgiving 2018. Thankfully, it is much better than the Thanksgiving of 1863 when Mr. Lincoln's proclamation called for National Thanksgiving on the final Thursday in November, explicitly in celebration of the bounties that had continued to fall on the Union and for the military successes of the war. Due to the ongoing war a nationwide Thanksgiving date was not realized until after reconstruction in the 1870's and even later in southern states.

Now, 155 years later, we do have much to be thankful for. While not perfect, we live in the greatest state in the greatest

country in the world. Scars from that horrible war have, for the most part, healed although we do have those who strive to continue the conflict and to rewrite the history. Our best defense is to follow Nathan Bedford Forrest's request to "be good citizens".

In this season of giving I would ask that every member support the Camp's Christmas Food Drive.

Please contribute what you can to make Christmas better for the less fortunate. While our enemies are tearing down monuments we will make things better for folks that need help.



I hope each of you have a very Merry Christmas. God Bless you all.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Meeting - Christmas Party

December 4, 2018 – 6:30 PM

Walking S Steakhouse Events are posted on
our website On the Calendar

CAMP LEADERSHIP

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Hint: This month's "Hidden Image" is Not Christmas
Clipart.



Phil Davis, Guardian Program Chairman (R)
presents Certificates to his son Larry for his
Guardianship of the Hunley Crew graves.

THE GUARDIAN

By: WDP

Taking part in the SCV Guardian Program is
a personally rewarding experience. How
better to honor our fallen ancestors and our
heritage than to protect their final resting
place.

Any SCV camp member in good standing,
who is at least sixteen years of age and who
has demonstrated his willingness to serve in
this special way may apply to become a
GUARDIAN. All compatriots are encouraged
to participate in this most worthwhile
program to honor our ancestors and
protect their final resting place.

As some of us get older and perhaps less
able to care for these gravesites, the
Guardian Program allows for these
circumstances.

Retirement of GUARDIAN Position: A
Guardian must notify the Guardian Review
Committee when he is no longer able to
carry out his duties for reasons of health or
relocation. Under such circumstances his

Guardianship “will be honorably retired,” unless passed on under the provisions of section “C” below.

C) Bequeathing of GUARDIAN Position: In lieu of retiring his Guardian position, a Guardian may bequeath his position and pass on his responsibilities to another SCV Member in good standing or a blood, male family member. All such transfers must be reviewed and approved by the Guardian Review Committee.

Being a Guardian myself and having a Father who is an active Guardian, I will happily and proudly take on his gravesites when he is not able to care for them.

Take that first step and apply to become a Guardian today...

UPSHUR CO. PATRIOTS GUARDIANS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Guardian Status</u>	<u>Number of 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
W=Wilderness GPT=Guardian Pro Tem		



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.



To View Some Confederate History

Click on the 2 Links Below

ECHOES OF THE BLUE & GRAY

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GeLGasX8FHk>

Rare Footage of Civil War Veterans Doing the Rebel Yell

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s6jSqt39vFM>

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 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.



A CHRISTMAS CREED

Author Unknown

I believe in Jesus Christ and in the beauty of the gospel begun in Bethlehem.

I believe in the one whose spirit glorified a little town; and whose spirit still brings music to persons all over the world, in towns both large and small.

I believe in the one for whom the crowded inn could find no room, and I confess that my heart still sometimes wants to exclude Christ from my life today.

I believe in the one whom the rulers of the Earth ignored and the proud could never understand; whose life was among common people, whose welcome came from persons of hungry hearts.

I believe in the one who proclaimed the love of God to be invincible.

I believe in the one whose cradle was a mother's arms, whose modest home in Nazareth had love for its only wealth, who looked at persons and made them see what God's love saw in them, who by love brought sinners back to purity, and lifted

human weakness up to meet the strength of God.

I confess my everlasting need of God: The need of forgiveness for my selfishness and greed, the need of new life for empty souls, the need of love for hearts grown cold.

I believe in God who gives us the best of himself.

I believe in Jesus, the son of the living God, born in Bethlehem this night, for me and for the world.

Amen.



May the spirit of Christmas bring you peace,
The gladness of Christmas give you hope,
The warmth of Christmas grant you love.

Unknown quote



HISTORICAL DATES IN DECEMBER

December 14, 1860 - Georgia calls for a convention of Southern states to form an independent nation.

December 7, 1862 - the Battle of Prairie Grove.

December 11, 1862 - One of the most controversial orders of the Civil War is issued by Ulysses S. Grant; Special Order 11, expelling Jews from his department.

December 11–15, 1862 - the Battle of Fredericksburg, Virginia.

December 23, 1862 - Jefferson Davis issues a general order proclaiming Benjamin Butler an "enemy of mankind" and authorizing his immediate execution if captured.

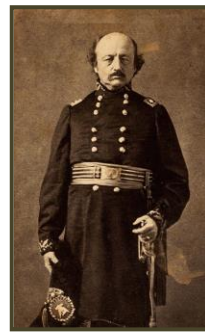
December 29, 1862 – the Battle of Chickasaw Bayou.

December 31–January 2, 1862 - the Battle of Stones River / Murfreesboro, Tn.

December 15–16, 1864 - the Battle of Nashville, Tn.

December 24–27, 1864 - the Battle of Fort Fisher, North Carolina.

December 7, 1941 - The U.S. Naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, was attacked by nearly 200 Japanese aircraft in a raid that lasted just over one hour and left nearly 3,000 Americans dead.



Benjamin F. Butler

Benjamin Butler became one of the most disliked generals of the war, upsetting many on both sides of the conflict. He was appointed a Major

General of Union Forces on May 16, 1861, being one of the first appointed by President Abraham Lincoln. He first saw action at the battle of Big Bethel, where he was defeated.

August 1861 in New Orleans, he was appointed as military governor, and commanded the city in rather controversial ways. He became known as one who would pilfer goods of the Southern households he was watching. He issued Order 28 during this time period, which stated that any lady in New Orleans who showed contempt for Union soldiers would effectively be treated as though they were a prostitute. This law drew great controversy in both the North and South, and caused Confederate president Jefferson Davis to label Butler an outlaw, and earned him the nickname "Beast Butler." He was removed from this position in December of 1862.

He went on to fail once again at Fort Fisher, North Carolina, and was ordered by Union general Ulysses S. Grant to return home to await orders. On November 30, 1865, Butler resigned his commission.





THE BATTLE OF FREDERICKSBURG

From: Wikipedia & history.com

The Battle of Fredericksburg was fought December 11–15, 1862, in and around Fredericksburg, Virginia in the Eastern Theater of the American Civil War. The Battle involved nearly 200,000 combatants, the largest concentration of troops in any Civil War battle. The combat, between the Union Army of the Potomac commanded by Major General Ambrose Burnside and the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia under General Robert E. Lee, was part of the Union Army's futile frontal attacks on December 13 against entrenched Confederate defenders on the heights behind the city. It is remembered as one of the most one-sided battles of the war, with Union casualties more than three times as heavy as those suffered by the Confederates.

The Battle of Fredericksburg was a crushing defeat for the Union, whose soldiers fought courageously and well but fell victim to mismanagement by their generals, including confused orders from Burnside to

Franklin. Burnside accepted responsibility for the defeat, though many blamed Lincoln for pressuring him to go ahead with an impossible offensive. In the rush of political recriminations that followed, a majority of Republican senators voted to remove Secretary of State William Seward, who had become the primary target for their frustrations over the administration's conduct of the war.



CIVIL WAR CHRISTMAS

By: Maggie MacLean

During the Civil War, Christmas was celebrated in both the United States and the Confederate States of America although the day was not recognized until 1870, when President Ulysses S. Grant made Christmas an official Federal holiday in an attempt to unite north and south. The war continued to rage on Christmas Day and skirmishes occurred throughout the country.

The Christmas tree came into its own during the Civil War. Most trees were small and sat on a table and were usually decorated with sugared fruit, candles and mistletoe, all supposed to bring good luck to the

household. Most decorations were homemade: strings of popcorn, ribbon, pine cones, colored paper and silver foil. Candles, greenery, holly and mistletoe were used to decorate mantels, windows and doors.

For children, Christmas was altered during the war. Presents were fewer, especially in the devastated South. By 1863, the Union blockade of the Southern coasts had made it nearly impossible for Santa Claus to visit homes in the South. Quite a few mothers explained to their children that there would be no presents because Santa Claus would not be able to run the blockade, or that the Yankees had shot him.

"Oh When will this war end? Will another Christmas roll around and find us all wintering in camp? Oh! That peace may soon be restored to our young but dearly beloved country and that we may all meet again in happiness."

FROM THE CONFEDERATE VETERAN MAGAZINE

DECEMBER 1893

During the time when rations, especially bacon, were scarce in the army of northern Virginia, Maj. B. Carter Adams commissary of Rodes' division, who could always get supplies if they were less than 500 miles from headquarters, succeeded in getting 12 wagon loads of bacon for his division, and was passing by his regiment (fifth Alabama), in bivouac. Some friend asked

him of the chances for meat rations. He remarked that he had 12 wagon loads coming on behind, which was overheard by a genial, hungry Reb, who said, "Major will you please say those very easy words over one more time, so that I may get a smell and become acclimated before it comes."



LEGUMES: PEANUTS AND THE CONFEDERACY

From the writings of: Jessie Rhodes

Before the Civil War, peanuts were not a widely cultivated crop in the United States—Virginia and North Carolina were the principal producers—and were generally viewed as a foodstuff fit for the lowest social classes and for livestock.

The "goober pea's" status in the Southern diet changed during the war as other foods became scarce. Excellent sources of protein, peanuts were seen as a means of fighting malnutrition. People used peanuts as a substitute for items that were no longer readily available, such as grinding them to a paste and blending them with milk and sugar when coffee was scarce.

Peanut oil was used to lubricate locomotives when whale oil could not be

obtained—and had the advantage of not gumming up the machinery—while housewives saw it as a sound stand-in for lard and shortening as well as lamp fuel.

“The man who has plenty of good peanuts
And giveth his neighbor none
He shan't have any of my peanuts
When his peanuts are gone”

THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

By: Grace Robinson

What is the true meaning of Christmas? Ask random people on the street, and you'll probably get at least a dozen different answers. Some might say: “Christmas is about giving.” “Christmas is about family and loved ones.” “Christmas is about being kind to strangers.” “Christmas is a church holiday.” “Christmas is about Jesus.” And all of these answers would be correct.

Christmas Is About Jesus

This is the true reason for the season. In Western cultures where Christmas is celebrated, most people have probably heard the name of Jesus and know that He's associated with this time of year. But if that's all they know, then of course Santa Claus and reindeer would take more precedence in their lives. The very word “Christmas” comes from an Old English word meaning “Christ's Mass”—that is, a celebration of Jesus.

Take this time of year to remember why we're buying gifts and putting up decorations. Because God gave His Son to us to make us part of His family, we give to others. Love is kind, and so because God loved us, we should show kindness to others. If we are Christ-followers, then we're part of His church, and it's our job to share Him with those who don't know Him.



A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE NATIVITY SCENE

The word nativity comes from the Latin word “nativus” which means “arisen by birth” which is fitting since the Simple Nativity scene with Stable sets reflect the true meaning of Christmas and are fashioned after the accounts of Christ's birth in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke.

Honoring the Nativity has been a traditional part of the Advent and Christmas season for hundreds of years. The tradition probably began around 1223, when Saint Francis of Assisi assembled the first nativity scene on Christmas Eve, near Greccio, Italy. He was holding a Christmas service and Mass inside

of a cave and he wanted to focus on the meaning of Christmas.

This timeless Christmas tradition is a source for reflection on the humility in which Christ came to us as well as a reminder of the true meaning of Christmas.

MEMBER PHOTOS

The photos below were submitted by Compatriot Raven Baker. They are from the Steve Witt Memorial Pow Wow held in Vigo County, Indiana. Compatriot Otter Hass is shown presenting the Cherokee Flag and Compatriot Raven Baker is shown presenting a U.S. Flag that flew in Afghanistan.



As we enjoy the month of December with all of the Events of the Christmas Season, let us all be mindful of Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, December 7th.

On Sunday morning, December 7, 1941, the American Army and Navy base in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii was attacked by the Imperial Japanese Navy. More than 2,400 Americans died in the attack, including civilians, and another 1,000 people were wounded.

Most of our brave Pearl Harbor Survivors are no longer with us. It is our duty to keep alive the memories of those who survived and lived to tell their stories, as well as the memories of the heroes who perished at Pearl Harbor.

Note: Ray Chavez, the oldest surviving veteran of Pearl Harbor, died Wednesday, November 21, 2018, in California at the age of 106.





Ad in the Confederate Veteran Magazine
December 1893



Confederate Memorial of the Wind
Orange, Texas

CONFEDERATE MONUMENT PROTEST IGNITES PROFANE RANT IN ORANGE

*From: Beaumont Enterprise
Nov. 13, 2018*

Note: The Memorial is on privately owned property.

The latest skirmish over Confederate monuments erupted this week in Orange, where video of a stranger's profanity-laden rant galvanized both sides of the ongoing debate.

The verbal barrage was filmed by a husband and wife who were protesting the 5-year-old Confederate Memorial of the Wind off

Interstate 10 near Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. It is one of an estimated 68 such monuments remaining in the state.

"What gives you the right to be (expletive) protesting America," the unidentified man says as he approaches. He berates the couple as "stupid idiots" and at one point screams that he would "feel better if you (expletive) Democrats would go to hell."

The couples, Orange natives Tracie and Jeremy Parzen have been picketing the site periodically since last December. They raised money through a Go Fund Me campaign to purchase billboard advertising urging the Sons of Confederate Veterans to "repurpose" the site because it "doesn't reflect Orange, Texas community values."

One commenter said she "totally" agreed with the man "with the exception of his language." She thanked him "for stopping and standing up for our country and our heritage."

"Yeah," a commenter with a different view responded. "Thank him for standing up to the history of the confederacy and their love of slavery."

A small minority noted "a difference between remembering and celebrating" history, which "this guy clearly does not get."

Comments supporting the attack on the protesters seemed to predominate, however. One man said he "loved every word of" the rant and suggested the man run for public office.



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.



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