



# **PATRIOT'S PERIODICAL**

**UPSHUR CO. PATRIOTS CAMP #2109**  
**SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS**  
**GILMER, TEXAS**

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Meetings are the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of  
Each Month at 7 PM  
at the Historic Upshur Museum  
[www.upshurpatriots.org](http://www.upshurpatriots.org)

APRIL 2025



## **COMMANDER'S COMMENTS**

DP

Compatriots and Friends:

As most of you know, I have been absent in recent months due to medical and health issues. I am finally feeling better and am on my way to recovering. I am happy to say that I have reached a point where I can be more involved.

We have reached the Spring season now where the weather is more friendly. Let's plan some activities and promote our message of Historical Education and Honoring our Ancestors.

Input from our Membership is always welcome. On that note, recruiting ideas would be my thought on our no. 1 priority.



*Hello to the first full month of spring!*



## **CAMP LEADERSHIP UPSHUR COUNTY PATRIOTS CAMP #2109**

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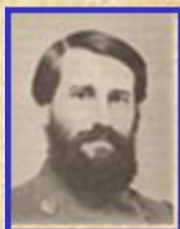
## **CHARGE TO THE SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS**

**“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.”**

**In 1906 General Stephen D. Lee, Commander-in-Chief of the United Confederate Veterans, gave a charge to the next generation of Southerners. This charge has defined the mission of the Sons of Confederate Veterans ever since.**

**On June 23, 1864, Lee was appointed a lieutenant general, making him the youngest man to reach the rank in the Confederate Army. He took command of General John B. Hood’s former corps within the Army of Tennessee.**



## **THE GUARDIAN**

The primary purpose of the Guardian Program is to honor Confederate veterans by caring for their gravesites. The program seeks to maintain these final resting places and ensure they are kept clean, presentable, and marked with the appropriate designations of Confederate service. This initiative is not only a tribute to our ancestors but also a preservation effort to protect these historical sites.

Becoming a Guardian is a meaningful way to protect and honor the legacy of our Confederate ancestors. By caring for their graves, you ensure that their contributions to history are remembered and respected.

***The SCV Guardian Program honors the  
Fallen.***

***“If you’re not a Guardian, why not?”***

**Contact Guardian Program Chairman Bill  
Elliot for information at: [etaia@att.net](mailto:etaia@att.net)**







## UPSHUR CO. PATRIOTS GUARDIANS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Guardian</u> <u>Status</u>	<u>Number of</u> <u>Graves</u>
Phil Davis	Full	37
Chris Loyd	Full	5
George Linton	Full/W/GPT	54
Eddie Pricer	Full/GPT	48
Milt Ojeman	Full/GPT	4
David Palmer	Full	1
Tommy Ray	Full/GPT	19
Bill Starnes	Full/W/GPT	8
Frank Smith	Full	2
Gregg Gipe	GPT	3
Rodney Love	Full	51
W=Wilderness GPT=Guardian Pro Tem		

Grave maintenance holds a deep-seated importance in our lives, intertwining with our cultural, spiritual, and emotional perceptions of death and remembrance. It's an act of respect, a tangible link to our past, and a bridge to future generations. Regular visits and maintenance can foster a strong sense of connection, enabling a continuous cycle of honor and remembrance for the departed soul. Maintaining graves involves a number of practices, each contributing to the sanctity and beauty of the final resting place. These include clearing the burial site, trimming the grass and plants around it, ensuring it's free of fallen leaves or debris, and protecting the site from vandalism or disturbance.

## 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.

The first version of the US Pledge of Allegiance was written in 1885 by Captain George Thatcher Balch, a Union Army officer in the Civil War.

The Pledge to the Texas Flag was adopted in 1933.

The Author of the Salute to the Confederate Flag has been lost over time.



## HELPING THOSE IN NEED

*biblicalpathway.com*

***"Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others." Philippians 2:4***

Caring for those who are sick reflects God's love and compassion. You can take practical steps to support individuals facing health issues: Visit Regularly, Prepare Meals and Assist with Errands are ways to help.

Create a Prayer Chain: Assemble your friends for ongoing prayer. Regularly praying for someone creates collective support. Send Encouraging Messages: Share verses or prayers through text or cards. Uplifting words can provide solace during difficult times.

Sometimes, just being there for someone can be enough. By showing compassion and offering practical assistance, we demonstrate the love of Christ and fulfill His command to love one another.

***Eddie, Phil and Gregg & Roxanne - Your generosity and willingness to help is unsurpassed.***

***Thank you to Phil's daughter Janda for the wonderful meals that she and Phil brought to us.***



## HISTORICAL EVENTS IN APRIL

### 1861

**April 11** - The Confederates demand the surrender of Fort Sumter



**April 12** - The Confederates in Charleston bombard Fort

Sumter

**April 13** - Fort Sumter surrenders to Confederate forces

**April 18/19** - Federal troops burn the U.S. Arsenal at Harpers Ferry to prevent it from falling into the hands of secessionists. The Confederates are nonetheless able to seize valuable military supplies when they occupy Harpers Ferry

**April 20/21** - Federal forces attempt to destroy the Gosport Navy Yard at Norfolk, Virginia by setting it ablaze. Secessionists put out the fires and salvage a large portion of the facility

**April 21** - The slave ship *Nightingale* is captured by the USS *Saratoga*

### 1862

**April 4** - Federal ironclad gunboat runs the batteries at Island No. 10 on the Mississippi River

**April 5** - Siege of Yorktown, Virginia begins

**April 6/7** - Battle of Shiloh (Pittsburg Landing), Tennessee begins

**April 8** - Battle of Fallen Timbers

**April 10** - Battle of Fort Pulaski begins

**April 18** - Bombardment begins at Fort Jackson and Fort St. Philip, 70 miles below New Orleans, Louisiana



**April 25/26** - Bombardment and surrender of Fort Macon, North Carolina

## **1863**

**April 7** - Naval attack on Charleston, South Carolina

**April 11** - Siege of Suffolk, Virginia by Confederates begins

**April 17** - Union Colonel Benjamin Grierson's Raid from La Grange, Tennessee to Baton Rouge, Louisiana begins

**April 21** - Generals Jones and Imboden begin Confederate raid on the B&O Railroad, Virginia (now West Virginia)

**April 30** - Battle of Chancellorsville begins near Fredericksburg, Virginia

## **1864**

**April 8** - Battle of Mansfield (Sabine Crossroads), Louisiana (Red River Expedition)

**April 9** - Battle of Pleasant Hill, Louisiana (Red River Expedition)

**April 12** - Capture of Fort Pillow, Tennessee by Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest

**April 20** - Plymouth, North Carolina captured

**April 23** - Engagement of Cane River Crossing, Louisiana (Red River Expedition)

**April 25** - Action at Mark's Mills, Arkansas on Steele's Camden Expedition

**April 26** - Union fleet trapped by low water on the Red River near Alexandria, Louisiana

**April 28** - Skirmishes at Princeton, Arkansas on Steele's Camden Expedition

## **1865**

**April 1** - Battle of Five Forks, Virginia

**April 2** - Selma, Alabama assailed and captured

**April 2** - Confederate lines at Petersburg breached and Fort Gregg stormed

**April 3** - Richmond and Petersburg occupied by Federals

**April 6** - Battle of Sayler's Creek (Sailor's Creek), Virginia

**April 7** - Engagement at High Bridge, Virginia

**April 7** - Engagement at Cumberland Church, Virginia

**April 8** - Siege of Spanish Fort, Alabama concludes

**April 8** - Battle of Appomattox Station

**April 9** - Lee surrenders to Grant at Appomattox Court House

**April 12** - Mobile, Alabama surrenders

**April 13** - Skirmish at Raleigh, North Carolina

**April 14** - United States flag raised over Fort Sumter, South Carolina

**April 14** - Abraham Lincoln is shot at Ford's Theatre

**April 15** - Abraham Lincoln dies. Andrew Johnson sworn in as President of the United States

**April 16** - Capture of Columbus and West Point, Georgia

**April 18** - Sherman and J. Johnston sign armistice at Durham Station, North Carolina

**April 26** - General Joseph Johnston surrenders to General William T. Sherman at Durham Station, North Carolina

**April 26** - John Wilkes Booth captured and killed in the Garrett Barn, Port Royal, Virginia

The Confederate States of America (CSA) passed its first conscription act on April 16, 1862. This required all men 18-35 to serve in the military. In September of 1862, the age requirement was raised to 45. In February 1864 the age was raised to 50. There were some exemptions allowed. As a result of these laws, many men served only because they were legally required to do so. "Conscripts accounted for one-fourth to one-third of the Confederate armies east of the Mississippi between April 1864 and early 1865.

Then, as now, men were often victims of circumstances and of the times in which they lived. Nothing about their lives was unusually commendable or abhorrent. They were just men, living ordinary lives, trying to take care of their families and be responsible citizens in their communities, but they should not be forgotten. They deserve to be honored, both for their service and for the lives they lived.



## SIEGE OF FORT MACON

*Wikipedia*

The siege of Fort Macon took place from March 23 to April 26, 1862, on the Outer Banks of Carteret County, North Carolina. It was part of Union Army General Ambrose E. Burnside's North Carolina Expedition during the American Civil War.

In late March, Major General Burnside's army advanced on Fort Macon, a casemated masonry fort that commanded the channel to Beaufort, 35 miles (56 km) southeast of New Bern. The Union force invested in the fort with siege works and on April 25 opened an accurate fire on the fort, soon breaching the masonry walls. Within a few hours the fort's scarp began to collapse, and in late afternoon the Confederate commander, Colonel Moses J. White, ordered the raising of a white flag. Burnside's terms of surrender were accepted, and the Federal troops took possession of the fort the next morning.

The battle had been relatively bloodless, at least by standards that soon would be common in the Civil War. On the Union side, only one man was killed, and two soldiers and one seaman were wounded. On the Confederate side, seven were killed outright, two died of wounds, and sixteen were wounded.





"The principle for which we contend is bound to reassert itself, though it may be at another time and in another form."...Jefferson Davis.



"It is painful enough to discover with what unconcern they speak of war and threaten it. They do not know its horrors. I have seen enough of it to make me look upon it as the sum of all evils."...Stonewall Jackson.



## THE SIEGE OF SUFFOLK



[civilwarmonths.com](http://civilwarmonths.com)

**April 11, 1863**

Confederate

Lieutenant-General

James Longstreet had been assigned to command a new department consisting of part of his First Corps pulled from General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. Longstreet's primary mission was to gather foodstuffs for Lee's army in the fertile region between Richmond and North Carolina. His main opposition was the Federal garrison at Suffolk, Virginia.

Longstreet's force consisted of 20,000 men in two divisions led by Major-Generals George Pickett and John Bell Hood. Longstreet planned to demonstrate against Suffolk to distract the Federals from his true purpose. Suffolk was garrisoned by about

25,000 men from the Ninth Corps under Major-General John J. Peck. The town was heavily fortified.

Confederates and Federals traded shots from across the Nansemond River, as Longstreet extended his right flank southward to Dismal Swamp. Fighting intensified over the next few days as Acting Rear-Admiral Samuel P. Lee, commanding the Federal North Atlantic Blockading Squadron, dispatched a fleet of gunboats under Lieutenant William B. Cushing to support Peck. Lee informed Navy Secretary Gideon Welles, "If Suffolk falls, Norfolk follows."

The gunboats U.S.S. *Mount Washington*, *Stepping Stones*, and *Commodore Barney* came up the crooked, narrow Nansemond and traded fire with the Confederate guns near the Norfleet house, at the confluence of a western branch of the Nansemond and the main river. The vessels were converted ferryboats and tugs and were not meant for such heavy combat. The Confederates inflicted heavy losses as a result.

Finally, on the 27th, Lee wrote Longstreet, "Can you give me any idea when your operations will be completed and whether any of the troops you have in North Carolina can be spared from there?" But by that time, Longstreet had become more entangled in the siege than he would have liked, and it would take him longer to disengage and rejoin Lee than he would have hoped.



## **BATTLE OF MARKS' MILLS**

*wikipedia.org*

The Battle of Marks' Mills (April 25, 1864), also known as the Action at Marks' Mills, was fought in present-day Cleveland County, Arkansas, during the American Civil War. Confederate Brigadier-General James F. Fagan, having made a forced march, attacked a train of several hundred wagons, guarded by a brigade of infantry, 500 cavalry, and a section of light artillery under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Francis M. Drake of the 36th Iowa, on its way from Camden to Pine Bluff for supplies.

Early on the morning of 25 April 1864, following a difficult crossing of the Moro, the 43rd and its sister units resumed their march toward Pine Bluff. Soon the 43rd encountered several abandoned Confederate campsites to their front but reports of a large Confederate presence in the area were discounted by Drake, who "roundly" cursed Major Norris and ordered the regiment to pick up its pace. As the 43rd emerged into a small clearing known as Marks' Mills, it was attacked by Fagan's dismounted brigade, including the 1st Arkansas Cavalry. The Hoosiers drove the Southerners back, but were quickly hit on their right flank by additional Confederates under the command of Brigadier-General William Cabell. The 43rd, supported by the 36th Iowa, now found itself facing the 1st

Arkansas, together with the 2nd Arkansas and Thomas Gunter's cavalry battalion. The 43rd and 36th were forced back toward a few log cabins in the center of the clearing, where their artillery raked the oncoming Southerners and was blasted in return by Hugely's Arkansas Battery.

The Federals found themselves surrounded in the clearing and fighting for their lives. The battle lasted for four hours altogether, until they were finally compelled to surrender.

Evil dies, good lives; and the time will come when all the world will realize that the failure of the Confederacy was a great misfortune to humanity and will be the source of unnumbered woes to liberty. Washington might have failed; Kosciusko and Robert E. Lee did fail; but I believe history will award a higher place to them, unsuccessful, than to Grant, victorious. This great and noble cause was defended with a genius and a chivalry of men and women never equaled by any race. My heart melts now at the memory of those days.



Gen. Bradley T. Johnson  
CSA

"Our women gave their carpets to make blankets, their dresses to be made into shirts for the soldiers, and their linen to furnish lint for their wounds, and then, clad in homespun, they gave themselves. Nearly every town and village in the South had its Soldiers' Aid Society and its hospital. Thousands and thousands of the poor 63 fellows were taken to private houses, even



away out in the country, and tenderly cared for. There was scarcely a woman near a battlefield or a railroad who did not nurse a soldier. Nearly every woman in Richmond served regularly on hospital committees.

Soon after the war I once expressed my sympathy to a young lady friend who was about to marry a young one-armed soldier. "I want no sympathy. I think it a great privilege and honor to be the wife of a man who lost his arm fighting for my country," was her prompt reply. That's your Southern girl."



## OUR BILL OF RIGHTS

[abogadosgold.com](http://abogadosgold.com)

### The First 10 Amendments to the Constitution

*"Liberty must at all hazards be supported. We have a right to it, derived from our Maker. But if we had not, our fathers have earned and bought it for us, at the expense of their ease, their estates, their pleasure, and their blood." – John Adams, 1765*

The Founding Fathers' perspectives on the Bill of Rights reflect their commitment to establishing a government that respects individual freedoms and limits its power. Visionaries like Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and Benjamin Franklin recognized the importance of limiting government power and protecting individual freedoms.

The Bill of Rights, the first ten amendments to the United States Constitution, stands as a cornerstone of American democracy. The Bill of Rights was added to the Constitution in 1791 to address concerns raised by Anti-Federalists who feared that the original Constitution did not provide adequate protections for individual rights.

It is essential to recognize that these amendments were crafted by the Founding Fathers with the intention of safeguarding individual freedoms and ensuring a system of checks and balances within the government. By understanding and appreciating the significance of the Bill of Rights, individuals can actively engage in upholding their rights and responsibilities as citizens of the United States.

### The Confederate Bill of Rights

The Confederate Bill of Rights emphasized states' rights over a strong central government, reflecting the Confederacy's belief in limited federal authority.

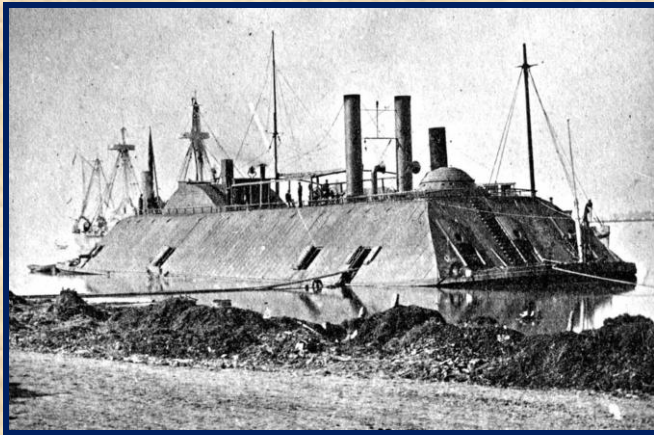
The Confederate Bill of Rights safeguarded property rights and individual liberty, reflecting the agrarian society of the South.

Right to Bear Arms: Similar to the Second Amendment in the U.S. Constitution, this provision affirmed the right of individuals to bear arms for self-defense and security.

***"So far from engaging in a war to perpetuate slavery, I am rejoiced that slavery is abolished."***

***-Robert E. Lee.***





*"I am more anxious than I can express that my men should be not only good soldiers of their country, but also good soldiers of the cross."*

*-Stonewall Jackson*

Upcoming Events may be found on the Calendar at: [www.upshurpatriots.org](http://www.upshurpatriots.org)



Thank you to the Historic Upshur Museum for providing our meeting location.

**The Patriot's Periodical is a multi-award-winning Publication by a Camp in the Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans. Comments or suggestions should be made to: David Palmer, Commander/Editor [goya1@etex.net](mailto:goya1@etex.net)**



We are proud to be associated with the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

