



# 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)

JULY 2025

## JULY 1863

This was a disastrous month for the Confederacy, which sustained decisive defeats at two key points that permanently turned the tide of the war. The largest battle ever fought in North America took place, and relentless Federal operations continued in Mississippi, Tennessee, and Charleston Harbor. Meanwhile, the North was torn by dissent over the new military draft.

### The Battle of Gettysburg

Advance elements of the Federal and Confederate armies clash in southern Pennsylvania, beginning what would grow into the most terrible battle in American history.

### The Battle of Gettysburg: Day Two

The Federal and Confederate armies gather south of Gettysburg, where Robert E. Lee launches ferocious attacks on both Federal flanks.

### The Battle of Gettysburg: Day Three

Robert E. Lee's Confederate Army of Northern Virginia launches a massive,

desperate charge to destroy the Federal Army of the Potomac once and for all.

### Confederates Starving in Vicksburg

The Confederate soldiers and residents under siege in Vicksburg are on the verge of being starved into submission.

### The Fall of Vicksburg

John C. Pemberton's Confederates formally surrender on Independence Day, transferring the mighty stronghold of Vicksburg to Federal hands.

### Lee's Invincibility is Broken

Robert E. Lee's Confederate Army of Northern Virginia begins retreating from Gettysburg, but the swelling Potomac River threatens to trap Lee in hostile territory.



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PATRIOTS CAMP #2109**

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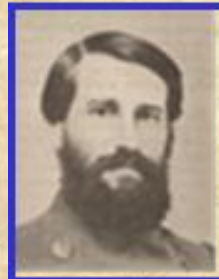
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**CHARGE TO THE SONS OF  
CONFEDERATE VETERANS**

“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.





## 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.

***“Dear God, grant me the strength and endurance to face any trials or challenges that July may bring. Help me to persevere with faith and courage, knowing that You are my source of strength. Empower me to overcome obstacles and to keep moving forward.”***



## THE GUARDIAN

Upshur County Patriots  
Members that Were Guardians  
and have Passed Away:

Paul Hamilton  
Tommy Mitchell  
Tommy Ray  
William “Bill” Palmer

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

# THE FIRST KENTUCKY RAID

*By Darryl Smith*

After the early Federal successes at Mill Springs, Middle Creek, Forts Henry and Donelson, and turning back the Confederates at Shiloh, by the summer operations had ground to a slow pace. When Corinth fell in May Henry Halleck had made the decision to split his large army to engage in disparate operations, one of those being Don C. Buell's advance across northern Alabama to take the vital city of Chattanooga. Due to the heat of the summer and the need to repair the Memphis & Charleston Railroad, designated by Halleck to be the main supply artery for Buell's command, Buell's command crawled towards Chattanooga. It was during this slow Federal movement that John H. Morgan led his command on what is known as the First Kentucky Raid.



It was decided that Morgan would raid into Kentucky, sowing confusion and creating destruction, to retard Buell's movement towards Chattanooga. On July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1862, Morgan started from Knoxville, moving across northern Tennessee to Sparta, then crossing into Kentucky south of Tompkinsville and moving towards that town where Morgan gobbled up a portion of the 9th Pennsylvania Cavalry by splitting his command in two, sending a portion to get into the Pennsylvanians' rear, a common tactic for Morgan's men.

Morgan, known for his playful nature, also used the telegraph to taunt Federal commanders, such as Jeremiah T. Boyle, the military district commander of Kentucky. On one occasion he would have Ellsworth send the following message: "Good morning, Jerry. This telegraph is a great institution. You should destroy it as it keeps me posted too well. My friend Ellsworth has all your dispatches since July 10 on file. Do you want copies?"

On the morning of July 17<sup>th</sup> Morgan moved his force northeast from Georgetown towards Cynthiana, a small town along the South Fork of the Licking River. The Kentucky Central Railroad also cut through town, this line being a key supply avenue for any Federal advance into eastern Tennessee. Morgan was familiar with Cynthiana, having had pre-war business dealings in the region as well as having participated in a State Guard encampment in 1860 north of town. Cynthiana offered southern support, as well as a road network that would allow Morgan to move in several directions, providing the Confederates flexibility in movement. Arriving three miles south of town Morgan would split his command into three parts. The Georgia battalion, with one company of Kentuckians, all under command of F. M. Nix, would swing to the west and move north of Cynthiana, breaking up a Federal supply camp. The Texans and Tennesseans, being led by Kentucky native Richard M. Gano, would move to the east, coming into town along the Millersburg Pike. Morgan, with Duke and the bulk of the Second Kentucky Cavalry, would advance along the Leesburg Pike. Morgan's small brigade



numbered 900 men and included an artillery section of six-pound mountain howitzers, known affectionately as “bull-pups.”

The Federals surrendered after 60-90 minutes of fighting. Morgan’s men marched the captured Federals and placed them on the second floor of the courthouse. One Federal prisoner, seeing the ladies of the town supply Morgan’s men with pies and cakes, but not offering any to the prisoners, stated “Perhaps those ladies did not know that Yankee soldiers liked pie and cake.” Morgan had fought a successful engagement but also saw what Home Guard could do when defending in a town setting. Confederate losses were 40-50 killed and wounded, while the Federals suffered 50-60 men casualties, with the remainder being captured. There was some plundering of necessary items (such as boots and shoes), a large number of butternut jeans was taken from a merchant, and a newspaper claimed that every Confederate “went away with a new pair of pants and a load of clothing piled up before him on his horse.”



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

## CONFEDERATE AND UNION SOLDIERS UNDER THE HEAT OF SUMMER

*civilwarmonitor.com*



Union and Confederate soldiers suffered under the intense heat and discomfort that accompanied summer campaigning.

“The men fought well, however, though half dead with heat, thirst, and weariness. Some broke for the river and plunged in the cool water for an instant, then emerging, rushed back to the fray and fought like lions.” Union surgeon Thomas Ellis, on the Battle of White Oak Swamp, Virginia, June 1862, in his diary.

There were several factors that caused an attack of sunstroke. One was clothing. Unlike today’s military, Civil War soldiers had one uniform issued to them that they had to wear year-round. While Confederate uniforms were often a combination of cotton and wool, Union uniforms were 100% wool—a decided drawback in hot weather.

we came, therefore, dragging wearily into our old camp through all the dust and heat, red in every bone, every fiber of clothing soaked in perspiration, having, in the course of four days, gone some fifty or sixty miles. We hope it was our last march. God send it may be so! for it is too much for men.”

—Corporal James Hosmer, 52nd Massachusetts Infantry, on a recent march to Clinton, Mississippi, and back in search of Confederate forces in his diary, June 11, 1863.