



PATRIOT'S PERIODICAL

UPSHUR CO. PATRIOTS CAMP #2109

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

GILMER, TEXAS

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Meetings are held the
1st Tuesday of
Each Month at 7 PM
in the Historic Upshur Museum
upshurpatriots.org

APRIL 2026

Compatriots:

We have a wonderful opportunity in the month of June.



The Texas Division Reunion will be held in Tyler Texas June 4-6, 2026. As close as this event is to us, let us have

a large attendance from our Camp and Brigade.

The Texas Division will gather in Tyler, Texas for the 129th Annual Texas Division Reunion, bringing compatriots together for three days of meetings, remembrance, and fellowship.

Hosted by Walker's Greyhounds Camp #2338, the reunion provides an opportunity to conduct Division business, honor our Confederate ancestors, and strengthen the bonds that unite the men of the Texas Division. Set in historic East Texas, Tyler offers a meaningful backdrop for reflection, leadership, and camaraderie.

Online registration may be found at:
<https://scvreunion.com/register>

CAMP LEADERSHIP

UPSHUR COUNTY

PATRIOTS CAMP #2109

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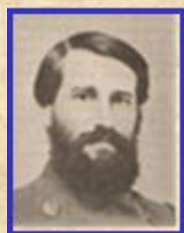




CHARGE TO THE SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

"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.



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.



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

THE GUARDIAN



The Texas Division Guardian Program is a special initiative designed to honor the memory of Confederate veterans by ensuring their final resting places are well-preserved and maintained. Through this program, members of the Texas Division SCV are given the opportunity to protect the gravesites of these soldiers, ensuring their legacy endures for future generations.

*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



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
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		

Upshur County Patriots Members that Were Guardians and have Passed Away

Paul Hamilton

Tommy Mitchell

Tommy Ray

William "Bill" Palmer



APRIL EVENTS IN THE CIVIL WAR

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 19 - Pratt Street Riot in Baltimore, Maryland

April 19 - President Lincoln declares a blockade of Southern ports

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 22 - Robert E. Lee accepts command of Virginia forces

April 23 - United State Army Officers in San Antonio, Texas are seized as prisoners of war

April 30 - New York Yacht Club offers its vessels to the Federal government

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 8 - Island No. 10 falls to Union forces under Major General John Pope

April 10 - Battle of Fort Pulaski begins

April 11 - Surrender of Fort Pulaski, Georgia

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

April 29 - Union "army group" advances on Corinth, Mississippi

1863

April 7 - Naval attack on Charleston, South Carolina

April 11 - Siege of Suffolk, Virginia by Confederates 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 22 - The motto "In God We Trust" first stamped on U.S. coins

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

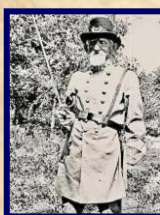
April 25 - Action at Mark's Mills, Arkansas on Steele's Camden Expedition

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

April 30 - Engagement at Jenkins' Ferry, Arkansas on Steele's Camden Expedition

1865



April 1 - Battle of Five Forks, Virginia

April 2 - Confederate Government evacuates Richmond, Virginia

April 2 - Selma, Alabama

assailed and captured

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

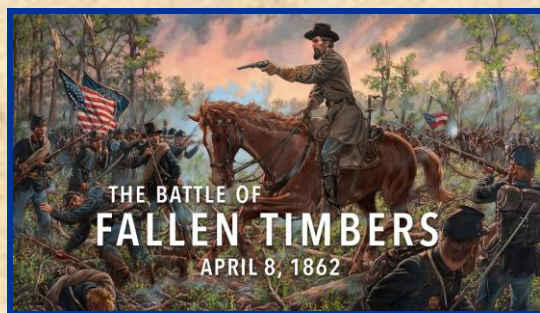


FORT SUMTER

wikipedia.org

On Friday, April 12, 1861, at 4:30 a.m., Confederate batteries opened fire on the fort, firing for 34 straight hours. Edmund Ruffin, noted Virginian agronomist and secessionist, claimed that he fired the first shot on Fort Sumter. His story has been widely believed, but Lieutenant Henry S. Farley, commanding a battery of two 10-inch siege mortars on James Island, actually fired the first shot at 4:30 a.m.

No attempt was made to return the fire for more than two hours. The fort's supply of ammunition was not suited for the task; also, there were no fuses for their explosive shells, which means that they could not explode. Only solid iron balls could be used against the Confederate batteries. The Union fired slowly to conserve ammunition. At night, the fire from the fort stopped, but the Confederates still lobbed an occasional shell into Sumter. On Saturday, April 13, the fort was surrendered and evacuated.



FALLEN TIMBERS

battlefields.org

April 8, 1862

In the aftermath of the Union victory at Shiloh, Federal commander Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant sent Federal troops under Brig. General William T. Sherman and Brig. General Thomas J. Wood to ascertain the Confederates position. At a place called Fallen Timbers—so called for the abundance of dead trees that littered the area—they discovered a Confederate field



hospital. Sherman ordered his skirmishers to advance on the Confederate position. In doing so, they encountered the Rebel

rearguard under Colonel Nathan Bedford Forrest. In his first encounter with Sherman, the "Wizard of the Saddle" charged headlong into the Yankee vanguard—far ahead of his own troops—where he was wounded and very nearly captured. Forrest's reckless aggression, however, paid off; the Federal forces fled in the direction of Pittsburg Landing, allowing the Confederates to escape.



IN GOD WE TRUST

allthatsinteresting.com

The phrase "In God we trust" is all but inescapable in the United States. It is pressed on coins, printed on dollar bills, and, in many states, present in every classroom.

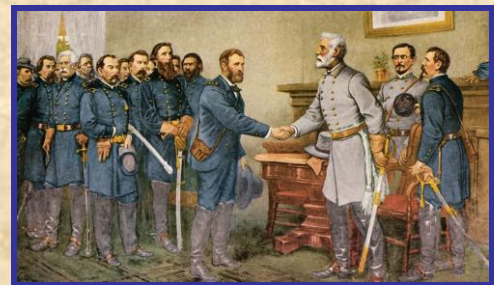
The motto "In God we trust" was inspired by the fourth verse of America's national anthem, "The Star-Spangled Banner." The line reads: "Then conquer we must, when our cause is just, and this be our motto: 'In God is our trust.'"

In 1861, a Christian minister named Reverend M. R. Watkinson of Ridley Township, Pennsylvania, penned a letter to Secretary of the Treasury Salmon P. Chase petitioning for "the recognition of the Almighty God in some form on our coins." In part, Watkinson's suggestion was intended to improve the morale of Union soldiers, assuming that if they had the blessing of God on their side, they would

prevail in the war. What's more, Union states wanted to display what they truly stood for to the outside world.

Chase found some sense in the reverend's words, and he put out an order for the U.S. Mint to begin producing coins with a religious reference on them. Initially, the director of the Mint suggested the phrase "God, Our Trust." Chase then changed it to "In God we trust," and the motto began appearing on Union currency in 1864, beginning with a two-cent coin.

"In God we trust" was added to coins with room for the phrase one year later. Soon, however, paper money became increasingly popular — but it wasn't until the mid-1950's that "In God we trust" was added to bills.



APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE APRIL 9, 1865

americanhistorycentral.com

On April 9, 1865, Generals Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee met at the home of Wilmer McClean, located in the small Virginia village of Appomattox Court House, to negotiate the surrender of the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia. By 4 p.m., the two generals reached an

agreement, and Lee signed a document surrendering his army.

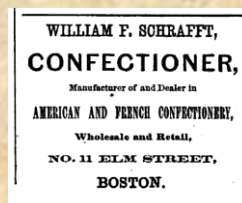
The Federals scored a decisive victory at the Battle of Sailor's Creek on April 6, capturing about 7,000 Confederate soldiers, including nine generals. Lee ordered another in a series of night marches to move what remained of his army west. The Confederates crossed the Appomattox River that night but failed in their attempts to destroy the wagon bridge at High Bridge on the morning of April 7, enabling the Federals to continue their pursuit.

On April 8, Major General George Custer's cavalry seized a Confederate supply train and 25 guns at the Battle of Appomattox Station, denying the Confederate army much-needed provisions. Later in the day, Custer also overran Lee's lead artillery unit and secured the high ground west of Appomattox Court House, directly in Lee's line of retreat.

On April 9, Lee made a last desperate attempt to escape Grant's clutches at the Battle of Appomattox Court House. He ordered Major General John B. Gordon's 2nd Corps of the Army of Northern Virginia to attack Major General Philip Sheridan's Cavalry early in the morning Sheridan stationed his cavalry along the ridge that Custer had secured the day before. Gordon's troops successfully penetrated the Federal cavalry and seized the ridge. To his dismay, however, Gordon discovered that on the other side of the ridge he faced the entire Union 5th and 24th army corps formed for battle. Gordon had no alternative other than to withdraw.

North of Appomattox Court House, the Federal 2nd Corps was moving against Major General James Longstreet's 1st Corps. Realizing that Grant had trapped his army, Lee contacted his adversary asking for terms of surrender. After several hours of correspondence, the two generals agreed upon a cease-fire. They then met at the home of Wilmer McLean, where Lee agreed to surrender the Army of Northern Virginia.

Lee's surrender did not end the Civil War, as some erroneously believe. Hostilities continued in various parts of the South for several months. The Confederate government met for the last time on May 5, 1865, before being dissolved. Union troops captured Confederate President Jefferson Davis on May 10 in Richmond, Virginia. Finally, on August 20, 1866, over one year later, President Andrew Johnson signed a *Proclamation—Declaring that Peace, Order, Tranquillity [sic], and Civil Authority Now Exists in and Throughout the Whole of the United States of America.*



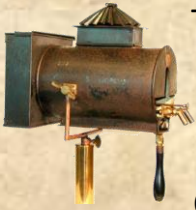
The first known reference to the jellybean is in an ad by candy purveyor William Schrafft of Boston, Ma., the inventor of jellybeans.



The candy man thought the jellybean was the ideal candy surprise to send to beloved soldiers away at war.

The jellybean is not mentioned in history again until 1905 in Chicago.

Limelights



These bright, incandescent lights were already in use in theaters and lighthouses before the war, but General Quincy Adams Gillmore's brilliant decision to use them in war was a first.

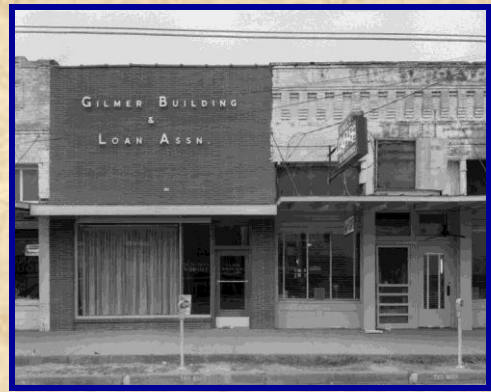
The lights, also known as calcium lights or Drummond lights, used calcium oxide, better known as lime, to create a bright, glowing light. Gillmore shined the blinding beam on the Confederate Fort Wagner in Charleston Harbor, illuminating it while simultaneously veiling by their glow his own men from Confederate sight.

The lights also subverted a Confederate attempt to move up the James River at night. They were planning a sneak attack with ironclad ships but the Union's lime lights exposed them.



Piggly Wiggly first opened in Gilmer, Texas in August 1927. This marked the introduction of the self-service grocery store concept in the area, which was a significant innovation at the time.

The store was situated on the East side of the square in Gilmer.



Gilmer Building and Loan Association 1957



Nation's Food Store & City Auto



Floyd's Feed & Seed 1963



Perhaps the year model of the cars can help with the date of this photo.