



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

JULY 2026

2026 REUNION

By: EP

The 2026 Texas Division Reunion has come and gone. The Upshur Patriots were blessed to have two delegates representing the Camp. 1st Lt. Rodney Love, Delegate Chairman and Past Commander Greg Gipe were our delegate representatives. A multitude of business items were on this year's agenda, including several amendments. Chairman Love will provide a more detailed report at our July 7th Camp meeting covering all of the business matters. We look forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting for this enlightening report.



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

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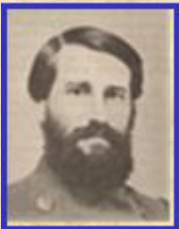


CHARGE TO THE SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

“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

myheritage.com

Maintaining the graves of ancestors is a meaningful way to honor their memory. It shows respect and provides a welcoming space for family and friends to visit. Regular upkeep can also help preserve the historical significance of the site.



Maintaining ancestors' graves involves cleaning debris, trimming weeds, and inspecting the headstone for damage, while also updating decorations like flowers or flags to keep the site respectful and welcoming.

The SCV Guardian Program offers a way for us to be Guardians of those that died fighting for our way of life.

Consider joining this rewarding program.

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

"If you're not a Guardian, why not?" ...PD

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
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

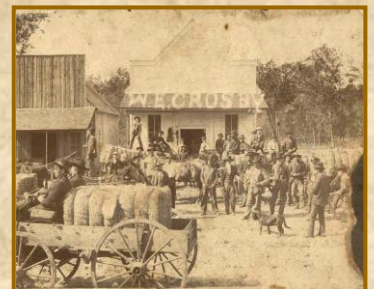
Tommy Mitchell

Tommy Ray

William "Bill" Palmer



Morgan
Hardware 1965



Rhionsborough



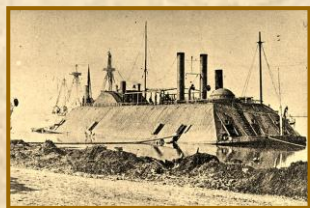
JULY EVENTS IN THE CIVIL WAR

1861

- July 5** - Engagement at Carthage, Missouri
- July 7** - Skirmish at Laurel Hill, Virginia (now West Virginia)
- July 11** - Engagement at Rich Mountain, Virginia (now West Virginia)
- July 18** - Engagement at Blackburn's Ford, Virginia
- July 21** - War's first major battle erupts at Manassas (Bull Run), Virginia
- July 26** - Federal forces evacuate Fort Fillmore, New Mexico Territory
- July 27** - Major General George McClellan put in command of the Federal Division of the Potomac

1862

- July 1** - Battle of Malvern Hill, Virginia
- July 12** - John Hunt Morgan's Confederate raiders capture Lebanon, Kentucky on their first raid
- July 13** - Garrison at Murfreesboro, Tennessee captured by Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest



July 15 - CSS *Arkansas* sorties from Yazoo River and passes the combined Union fleets

- July 16** - Confederate representative meets with Napoleon III of France to discuss foreign aid
- July 29** - Belle Boyd, Confederate spy, captured

1863

- July 1** - Battle of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania begins
- July 2** - Second day of the Battle of Gettysburg, heavy fighting in The Wheatfield
- July 3** - Morgan's raiders cross the Cumberland River near Burkesville, Kentucky
- July 3** - Battle of Gettysburg concludes
- July 4** - Confederates surrender Vicksburg, Mississippi
- July 4** - Lee's forces begin to retreat from Gettysburg
- July 5** - Engagement at Birdson Ferry, Mississippi
- July 6** - Skirmish at Williamsport and Hagerstown, Maryland
- July 8** - Surrender of Port Hudson, Louisiana
- July 8** - General John Hunt Morgan crosses the Ohio River into Indiana at Brandenburg, Kentucky
- July 10** - Action at Falling Waters, Maryland
- July 10** - Siege of Fort Wagner, Charleston Harbor, South Carolina begins
- July 11** - First assault on Fort Wagner
- July 13** - Draft riots in New York City
- July 17** - Engagement at Honey Springs, Indian Territory (now Oklahoma)
- July 18** - Assault on Battery Wagner, led by the 54th Massachusetts
- July 19** - Engagement at Buffington Island on the Ohio River
- July 23** - Skirmish at Manassas Gap, Virginia
- July 26** - John Hunt Morgan captured at Salineville, Ohio

1864

- July 9** - Battle of Monocacy, Maryland
- July 12** - Early's raid of Fort Stevens, DC

July 14 - Battle of Tupelo (Harrisburg), Mississippi

July 17 - Confederate General J.B. Hood replaces J. Johnston as commander of the Army of Tennessee

July 18 - Battle of Cool Spring, Virginia

July 20 - Engagement at Rutherford's Farm, Virginia

July 20 - Battle of Peachtree Creek, Georgia

July 22 - Battle of Atlanta, Georgia

July 24 - Second Battle of Kernstown, Virginia

July 28 - Battle of Ezra Church, Georgia

July 30 - Capture and burning of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania

July 30 - Battle of The Crater at Petersburg, Virginia



***"The God who gave us life gave us liberty.
Can the liberties of a nation be secure
when we have removed a conviction that
these liberties are the gift of God?"***

Thomas Jefferson



BLACKBURN'S FORD

Wikipedia

The engagement at Blackburn's Ford occurred on July 18, 1861, during the American Civil War, where Union forces under General Daniel Tyler attempted to cross Bull Run Creek but were repulsed by Confederate troops, resulting in a Confederate victory. The Union suffered 83 casualties, while the Confederates reported 68.



Belligerent	Estimated Strength	Casualties
United States	~3,000	83
Confederate States	~5,100	68

Course of the Engagement

1. Initial Orders: General Irvin McDowell ordered Tyler to reconnoiter the area without engaging the enemy.
2. Union Advance: Tyler's forces, including Colonel Israel Richardson's brigade, advanced towards the ford, encountering Confederate artillery and infantry.
3. Combat Escalation: Despite orders, Tyler initiated an attack, leading to

heavy fighting. The Union troops faced fierce resistance from the Confederate forces.

4. Withdrawal: After realizing the strength of the Confederate position, Tyler ordered a retreat around 4 PM.

Aftermath

The engagement resulted in a Confederate victory, marking a significant moment for both sides. The Union forces learned that the fords along Bull Run would be heavily contested, influencing their strategy for the upcoming First Battle of Bull Run just days later.



MORGAN'S GREAT RAID

civilwartalk.com

In the summer of 1863,
Confederate Brigadier
General John
Hunt Morgan



launched an even more audacious raid through Kentucky, Indiana and Ohio. His inventive and highly successful tactics included having his telegraph operator masquerade as a Union soldier and send false and wildly divergent messages reporting on Morgan's actions, objectives and troop strength, creating confusion and hampering any response. Despite great initial success, Morgan was defeated at the Battle of Buffington Island, Ohio, on July 19, 1863, and some 750 Confederate cavaliers were captured. A few days later, pursued by

Federal cavalry, 300 of Morgan's men crossed the swollen Ohio River into West Virginia; the rest continued north and east, hoping for a chance to slip across the river to relative safety. After another defeat at the Battle of Salineville on July 26, Morgan was captured and taken with some of his officers to the Ohio State Penitentiary, while the majority of the enlisted men were sent to Chicago's Camp Douglas as prisoners of war.



JUNE PROGRAMS

By: EP

For those attending the June 5, 2026, meeting of the Upshur County Patriots they were the beneficiaries of not one but two excellent programs. Both programs were presented by members of the General John Gregg Camp of Longview, Texas.



The first presentation was provided by Sam Mercer detailing the heroics of Major John D. Jones. After moving to the Republic of Texas in 1839, he served with distinction with Terry's Texas Rangers during the War of Northern Aggression. After the war, he later was instrumental in capturing the infamous outlaw Sam Bass and also fought successfully against Chief Quannah Parker at

Adobe Walls. The lecture was quite informative.

The second presentation was given by John Hanisee discussing 3 artifacts that he brought to the meeting. The first was a 3-inch Parrot shell obtained from the USS Cairo which was sunk by Confederate mines on the Yazoo River just north of Vicksburg Mississippi on December 12, 1862. He also talked about a 6-pound artillery shell and its design and uses that was found on the battleground of Chickasaw Bayou. Lastly, John spoke about a fragment of a 150-pound mortar located in downtown Vicksburg. This was part of the first joint Army, Navy, and Marine combined operation during the war.

Both programs were insightful and well received by those in attendance. If you missed the meeting, you missed a great opportunity to touch actual history.



“Resistance to tyranny becomes the Christian and social duty of each individual... Continue steadfast and, with a proper sense of your dependence on God, nobly defend those rights which heaven gave, and no man ought to take from us.”

John Hancock

EARLY GILMER TEXAS

genealogytrails.com

About the time of incorporation of Gilmer there was an ordinance that said: "No man shall ride horseback on sidewalks of the city of Gilmer, if they do, they shall be fined not less than \$5 or more than \$25." It was this ordinance that was first violated. There was a man who lived just on the outside of town



that owned a large, long-horned Texas steer by the name of Lamb. Old Lamb's horns were about six feet from tip to tip. This gentleman saddled old Lamb and came to town. After visiting the saloon and getting drunk, he mounted Lamb and rode up and down every sidewalk of the small city and none dared to molest or make him afraid.

It was in about 1860 or 1861, on the old Cherokee Tract about two and one-half miles northwest of its present site, and in what is now the W. C. Barnwell farm, that Gilmer had its beginning. Court in those old days of Gilmer was held under an old oak tree. There are many amusing stories told about those days and the system of court. One day a trial of a drunken man was being held. Suddenly he began to yell, "I'm a horse, I'm a horse!" The judge called: "Mr. Sheriff, tie that horse!" and the trial was dismissed.

There are other stories told of how notorious criminals were captured and held. One of these criminals was tied to a tree by a chain. People thought him to be safe, but when morning dawned, he had gone. The small sapling which he had been chained to

proved insufficient to hold him. He had bent it so as to slip the chain over it.

There is a story told of a murder that took place in a saloon on the square, which proves to us that Gilmer must have been a rough town. A man by the name of Cleavland stabbed a man whose name was Miller. While Miller's life blood was gushing

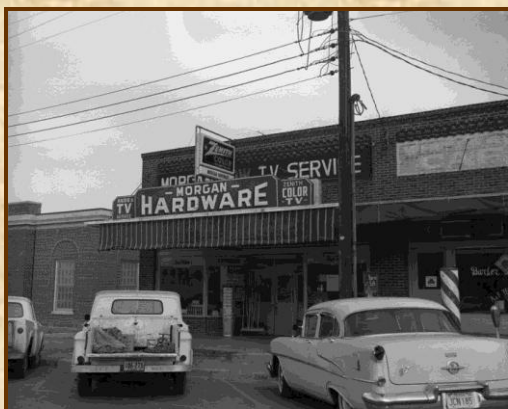


out, he yelled for his son to kill Cleavland. With a double-barreled shotgun Miller's son shot Cleavland, who died before Miller. The boy was

exonerated by the courts for killing his father's slayer.



Tyler Street, Gilmer, Texas - Early 1950's



Morgan Hardware 1965

UNSUNG HEROES OF THE CIVIL WAR

animalsaroundtheglobe.com

Many animals played an integral role during the Civil War. This pivotal time in American history was not just a human endeavor, but a multifaceted saga where animals were indispensable – a fact that is sadly often overlooked.



Horses were the backbone of the cavalry and artillery units. Their bravery and endurance were vital as they carried soldiers into battle,

pulled cannons around, and were a crucial part of achieving swift communication across battlefields.

Mules were the unsung heroes of logistics. These hardy creatures transported ammunition, supplies, and at times even wounded soldiers. This, along with their ability to manage the unruly terrains of the South made them invaluable during those turbulent times.

War Dogs had many purposes during the Civil War. Not only did they act as messengers, guards, and mascots boosting troop morale, but offered solace to soldiers longing for their homes by being loyal companions.

Carrier Pigeons were used for communication in times when other means were impossible. These pigeons' speed and reliability saved many lives through their ability to convey urgent messages across enemy lines.