



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

MAY 2026



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.

All Texas Division members and guests are encouraged to attend and take part in shaping the future of the Division.

CAMP LEADERSHIP

UPSHUR COUNTY

PATRIOTS CAMP #2109

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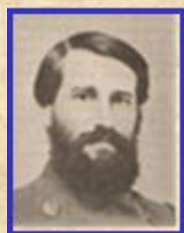




CHARGE TO THE SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

“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.



**129th Annual Reunion of the
Texas Division
Sons of Confederate Veterans
2026 REUNION SCHEDULE**



Friday, June 4th

7:00 AM to 9:30 AM
8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
2:00 PM to 5:00 PM
4:00 PM to 5:00 PM
5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
7:30 PM to 9:00 PM

Full Free Breakfast for Hotel Guests ~ Summerfields Grille
Vendor Set Up and Sales ~ Pre-Function Foyer
SCV Registration ~ Holiday Inn Lobby
SCV Memorial Service ~ Oakwood Cemetery
Dinner On Your Own ~ Hotel is in the heart of restaurant row
Commander's Mixer/Meet and Greet ~ Pre-Function Foyer

Saturday, June 5th

7:00 AM to 8:00 AM
7:00 AM to 12:00 PM
8:00 AM to 9:00 AM
9:15 AM to 11:45 PM
9:15 AM to 12:00 PM
12:00 PM to 1:30 PM
2:00 PM to 5:00 PM
7:00 PM to 11:00 PM

Full Free Breakfast for Hotel Guests ~ Summerfields Grille
Registration / Credentials / Vendor Sales
Opening Ceremony ~ Constellation Ballroom
Business Session ~ Constellation Ballroom
Order of Confederate Rose Meeting ~ Gemini Room
Awards Luncheon ~ Constellation Ballroom
Confederate Heritage Tour ~ Bus Departs from Hotel Lobby
Grand Banquet & Debutante Ball ~ Constellation Ballroom

Sunday, June 6th

7:30 AM to 8:30 AM
8:00 AM to 1:00 PM
8:00 AM to 9:00 AM
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Full Free Breakfast for Hotel Guests ~ Summerfields Grille
Departures, Complimentary Shuttle to Tyler Airport
Worship Service ~ Constellation Ballroom
DEC Meeting ~ Constellation Ballroom

Schedule for the Texas Reunion



THE GUARDIAN

Throughout history it was believed that a cemetery had an appointed guardian; a soul who was left there to protect the cemetery grounds and the departed, not only from visiting humans, but from evil forces as well.

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
Tommy Ray	Full/GPT	19
Bill Starnes	Full/W/GPT	8
Frank Smith	Full	2
Gregg Gipe	GPT	3
Rodney Love	Full	
51W=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





MAY EVENTS IN THE CIVIL WAR

1861

May 3 - Lincoln calls for volunteers to join the Union Army for a three-year term

May 6 - Arkansas and Tennessee adopt Ordinances of Secession. Tennessee schedules a referendum for June 8

May 13 - U.S. troops occupy Baltimore, Maryland

May 20 - North Carolina adopts an Ordinance of Secession

May 20 - Kentucky declares its neutrality

May 21 - The Confederate Congress agrees to move the Confederate capital from Montgomery, Alabama to Richmond, Virginia

May 24 - Federal troops seize Alexandria, Virginia

May 24 - Zouave leader Elmer Ellsworth killed in Alexandria by James W. Jackson

1862

May 5 - Battle of Williamsburg, Virginia

May 7 - Engagement at West Point (Eltham's Landing), Virginia

May 8 - Battle of McDowell, Virginia

May 9 - Bombardment of Pensacola, Florida

May 10 - Naval engagement at Plum Run Bend, Arkansas

May 10 - Union forces captured Norfolk, Virginia

May 11 - Confederate sailors blow up the CSS *Virginia* to keep her from falling into Union hands

May 15 - Battle of Drewry's Bluff, Virginia

May 20 - Lincoln signs the Homestead Act

May 23 - Engagement at Front Royal, Virginia

May 25 - Battle of First Winchester, Virginia

May 26 - Skirmish at Calico Rock, Arkansas

May 29/30 - Confederates evacuated Corinth, Mississippi

May 31 - Battle of Seven Pines (Fair Oaks), Virginia begins

1863

May 1 - Battle of Port Gibson, Mississippi

May 3 - Second Battle of Fredericksburg, Virginia

May 3/4 - Chancellorsville

Campaign continues with the Battle of Salem Church

May 6 - Battle of Chancellorsville ends with Confederate victory



May 10 - Death of Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson

May 12 - Battle of Raymond, Mississippi

May 14 - Engagement at Jackson, Mississippi

May 16 - Battle of Champion Hill (Baker's Creek), Mississippi

May 17 - Battle of Big Black River Bridge, Mississippi

May 19 - First assault on Vicksburg, Mississippi

May 21 - Engagement at Plains Store, Louisiana

May 22 - Second assault on Vicksburg

May 22 - Siege of Port Hudson, Louisiana begins

May 27 - First assault on Port Hudson

1864

May 5 - Battle of the Wilderness, Virginia

May 6 - Day two of the Battle of the Wilderness, General James Longstreet is seriously wounded in combat

May 7 - Sherman begins his Atlanta campaign

May 7 - Union troops seize Tunnel Hill on the first day of the Atlanta Campaign, an important tunnel on the Western & Atlantic Railroad.

May 8 - Battle of Spotsylvania, Virginia

May 8 - Engagement at Dug Gap, Georgia

May 9 - Engagement at Swift Creek, Virginia,

May 11 - Battle of Yellow Tavern, Virginia on Sheridan's Richmond Raid

May 12 - Battle of Spotsylvania continues with the fight for the Bloody Angle



May 12 - Death of J.E.B. Stuart

May 13 - Battle of Resaca, Georgia begins

May 15 - Battle of New Market, Virginia

- **May 18** - Engagement at Yellow Bayou (Bayou de Glaize), Louisiana (Red River Expedition)

- **May 20** - Battle of Ware Bottom Church

- **May 23** - Battle of North Anna River, Virginia

- **May 25** - Battle of New Hope Church, Georgia

- **May 27** - Battle of Pickett's Mill, Georgia

- **May 28** - Skirmish near Jacksonville, Florida

- **May 28** - Battle of Dallas, Georgia

- **May 29** - Confederates capture wagon train at Salem, Arkansas

- **May 31** - Combat at Bethesda Church, Virginia

1865

May 2 - A \$100,000 reward offered for the arrest of Jefferson Davis

May 4 - Surrender of Confederate General Richard Taylor's forces at Citronelle, Alabama

May 10 - Confederate President Jefferson Davis captured by U.S. troops at Irwinville, Georgia

May 12 - Skirmish at Palmito Ranch, Texas - the last engagement of the Civil War

May 26 - Surrender of Confederate General E.K. Smith's Trans-Mississippi forces, New Orleans, Louisiana

May 29 - President Andrew Johnson proclaims amnesty for most ex-Confederates



KENTUCKY'S DECLARATION

history.com

On April 21, 1861, during the early stages of the American Civil War, the state of Kentucky officially declared its neutrality in the conflict. This decision was made amidst a rapidly deteriorating national unity following the secession of multiple Southern states and the outbreak of war at Fort Sumter earlier in April 1861.

Kentucky's neutral position was strategically significant due to its central location and the Ohio River, which served as a critical boundary and resource. Both the Union and the Confederacy were keenly interested in Kentucky's allegiance. The state's neutrality was viewed with skepticism by both sides, who doubted its feasibility over the long term, given the escalating military actions around them.

Kentucky's neutrality was eventually undermined as the war progressed. By

September 1861, Confederate forces occupied Columbus, Kentucky, leading to increased pressure on the state. In response, Union forces also moved into Kentucky, effectively ending its status as a neutral state. From that point forward, Kentucky's government officially supported the Union, although the state witnessed internal divisions and contributed troops to both sides throughout the conflict.

Kentucky's initial declaration of neutrality reflected the complexities and divisions among border states during the Civil War, highlighting the intersection of strategic military concerns and deep-rooted political, economic, and social affiliations.



The CSS Stonewall was a 1,390-ton ironclad built in Bordeaux, France, for the Confederate Navy in 1864. After she

crossed the Atlantic, reaching Havana, Cuba, it was already May 1865, and the war had ended. Spanish Authorities took possession, soon handing it over to the U.S. government.



BATTLE OF WILLIAMSBURG, VA.

battlefields.org

On May 5, 1862, elements of Union General George B. McClellan's army attacked the rear guard of General Joseph E. Johnston's

retreating army near Williamsburg, Virginia, resulting in an inconclusive fight. After the battle, the Federal army continued their campaign and moved toward Richmond.

As the Confederates withdrew from their lines at Yorktown, McClellan sent forward the III Corps under the command of General Samuel P. Heintzelman. Heintzelman's orders were to follow the Confederate army, while Johnston planned to delay the Union pursuit.

Early on the morning of May 5th, Union forces under the command of



General Joseph Hooker moved towards the Confederate lines near Fort Magruder outside Williamsburg. Hooker's men immediately attacked the

Confederates and were repulsed. Confederates under General James Longstreet counterattacked but Phil Kearny's division moved up to stabilize the Federal left. General Darius N. Couch's IV Corps brigade arrived to support Hooker's right. General Winfield S. Hancock's brigade moved to threaten the Confederate left flank, occupying an abandoned redoubt. Confederates under General Jubal Early counterattacked against Hancock and were repulsed.



Jefferson Davis: "We are not fighting for slavery. We are fighting for Independence, and that, or extermination, we will have. The principle for which we contend is bound to reassert itself, though it may be at another time and in another form."



BIG BLACK RIVER RIDGE

battlefields.org

The



Confederates under Lt. Gen. John C. Pemberton reached the Big Black River railroad bridge the night of May 16, 1863. Pemberton ordered Brig.

Gen. John S. Bowen, with three brigades, to fortify the east bank of the river to impede Union army pursuit. Three divisions of Maj.



Gen. John A. McClernand's XIII Corps moved west from Edwards Station on the morning of the 17th and

encountered the Confederates behind their breastworks. Union Brig. Gen. Michael Lawler formed his brigade and surged out of a cut near the river, across the front of the Confederate forces, and into their breastworks, held by John C. Vaughn's East Tennessee Brigade. Confused and panicked, the Rebels began to withdraw across the railroad bridge and three steamboats moored together athwart the river. As soon as they had crossed, the Confederates set fire to the bridge and the boats, preventing close Union pursuit. The Union forces captured almost 1,800 troops at the Big Black River, a loss that the Confederates could ill-afford. The battle sealed Vicksburg's fate: Pemberton's army was now bottled up in the city.



The Gettysburg Grand Reunion of 1888 was proposed and organized by Major General Dan Sickles to recognize and commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg. He was adamant about inviting former members of the Army of Northern Virginia with the goal of renewing everyone's

allegiance and loyalty to one nation and one flag.



An estimated 30,000 veterans streamed into the little Pennsylvania town, however, only about

three hundred or so represented the south. Still, the men gathered, visited or dedicated monuments and swapped stories for the three-day event, highlighted by a memorial ceremony at the Rostrum of the Soldier's National Cemetery on July 2.

The famous July 3 William F. Tipton photo shows (left to right) Joshua Chamberlain (in the top hat), Daniel Butterfield, James Longstreet, and Daniel Sickles with a group of the veterans.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR COMMANDER IN CHIEF.

From: Sons of Confederate Veterans HQ
Subject: Telegraph: SPLC and Anti-Confederate Bias
SPLC and Anti-Confederate Bias

The Sons of Confederate Veterans congratulates the Director of the FBI and the acting Attorney General for their sweeping indictment of the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC). The SPLC has been accused of funding hate groups in order to raise money for the SPLC. The recent indictment of the Southern Poverty Law Center for “manufacturing extremism it purports to oppose” demonstrates how this left-wing organization has created a false narrative for its financial gain. The SPLC has, for many years, attacked all things Confederate by misrepresenting the truth about the causes and consequences of the War Between the States. The SPLC has been at the forefront of efforts to take down and destroy monuments, memorials, and even gravesites of anyone associated with the defense of the South during that tragic conflict.

While the SPLC and many Marxist-inspired groups have been busy misrepresenting the truth about why Confederate monuments were erected, unfortunately, conservative media outlets have protected the left-wing false narrative about the South. While most conservative media will decry removing Confederate monuments, none have made an effort to let the public hear the “rest of

the story” about why that war was fought and why those monuments are important. By refusing to allow an opposing view of what the Confederate Cause truly represents, conservatives have given the SPLC, BLM, and the NAACP free rein in promoting hate against men such as Robert E. Lee and Jefferson Davis.

Even though slavery existed for 73 years longer in Massachusetts than it did in Mississippi, and the last slave state to be admitted into the Union was done so by the effort of Abraham Lincoln and the Republican Party, SPLC and such groups present slavery as strictly a Southern issue. Even though former Presidents Thomas Jefferson and John Q. Adams advocated the right of secession, left-wing hate groups will still accuse Robert E. Lee of treason.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans hope the exposure of the SPLC's less-than-honorable actions will open the minds of those who choose to view the South in a negative manner.



Walter D. (Donnie) Kennedy
Commander-in-Chief, SCV

