



PATRIOT'S PERIODICAL

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

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

OCTOBER 2025



A Message from the Commander-in-Chief

Gentlemen of the Sons of Confederate Veterans,

As the Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and in response to the tragic attack upon the First Amendment of the Constitution and the life of Charlie Kirk, I have ordered the flags of the Confederate States of America and the flag of the SCV to be flown at half-staff for the remainder of this month. Gentlemen, Mr. Kirk was a strong defender of traditional American values, which we in the SCV have long defended. I encourage each member to reflect upon Mr. Kirk's positive effort to encourage dialogue among people of various viewpoints.

As descendants of Confederate ancestors, Southerners, more than any other Americans, understand the need

for civil discourse. We have seen our Southern history distorted and monuments to Southern heroes destroyed by those who do not wish to engage in dialogue, but rather force their radical views upon the South and all of America. Let us hope that Mr. Kirk's tragic death will force those who hate traditional American values to rethink and change their less-than-civil attitude and discourse with their fellow Americans.

Please follow the lead of General Robert E. Lee and interact with our detractors and Mr. Kirk's detractors with Christian charity. Pray for Mr. Kirk's family, these United States, and our beloved Southland.

Deo Vindice,

Walter D. "Donnie" Kennedy
Commander-in-Chief, Sons of
Confederate Veterans





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UPSHUR COUNTY
PATRIOTS CAMP #2109**

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Freedom of speech is the right of a person to articulate opinions and ideas without interference or retaliation from the government. The term "speech" constitutes expression that includes far more than just words, but also what a person wears, reads, performs, protests and more. In the United States, freedom of speech is strongly protected by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, as well as many state and federal laws. The United States' free speech protections are among the strongest of any

democracy; the First Amendment protects even speech that many would see as offensive, hateful or harassing.



**THE
GUARDIAN**

Headstones, like any outdoor structures, are subject to the elements, which can cause wear and tear over time. From the changing weather patterns to fallen leaves and debris, there are various factors that can impact the condition of a headstone. Neglecting fall headstone maintenance can lead to issues such as discoloration, damage, or even deterioration of the material. To avoid these problems and keep memorials pristine, it's crucial to undertake regular headstone care, especially during the fall.

Tips:

Clean the Headstone using a mild cleanser
Inspect for damage
Remove Organic Debris
Practice Weed Control

Taking the time to care for these memorials not only honors the memory of those who have passed but also provides a lasting tribute to their lives.

The SCV Guardian Program honors the Fallen.

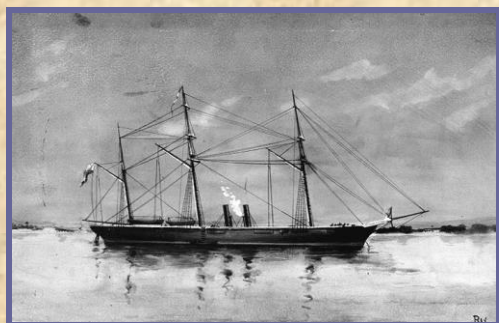
"If you're not a Guardian, why not?"

Contact Guardian Program Chairman Bill Elliot for information at: etaia@att.net



UPSHUR CO. PATRIOTS GUARDIANS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Guardian</u> <u>Status</u>	<u>Number of</u> <u>Graves</u>
Phil Davis	Full	31
Chris Loyd	Full	5
George Linton	Full/W/GPT	51
Eddie Pricer	Full/GPT	40
Milt Ojeman	Full/GPT	4
David Palmer	Full	1
Tommy Ray	Full/GPT	19
Bill Starnes	Full/W/GPT	7
Frank Smith	Full	2
Gregg Gipe	GPT	3
Rodney Love	Full	51
W=Wilderness GPT=Guardian Pro Tem		



The CSS *Florida*, during her two years of operations against Union commerce, was one of the most profitable military investments made by the Confederacy. The damage she caused was physical, immediate and long range, but it could not have been accomplished without the able leadership of the resourceful commanders, operating against overwhelming odds.

On October 7, 1864, while the *Florida* was still in port, she was captured by the USS *Wachusett*. Towed to sea, she was sent to the United States as a prize despite Brazil's protests that this was a clear violation of their sovereignty. This signified the end of the *Florida's* career as a Confederate cruiser,

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.



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.



OCTOBER EVENTS DURING THE CIVIL WAR



1861

October 3 - The Battle of Greenbrier River (Camp Bartow), Virginia (now West Virginia)

October 9 - Engagement on Santa Rosa Island, Florida

October 21 - Battle of Ball's Bluff (Leesburg), Virginia

October 24 - Western Union completes the first trans-continental telegraph line

October 25 - Union Major Charles Zagoni's "famous" charge into Springfield, Missouri

1862

October 1 - Skirmish near Sharpsburg, Maryland

October 3 - Battle of Corinth, Mississippi.

October 8 - Battle of Perryville (Chaplin Hills), Kentucky

October 10 - Fighting at Harrodsburg and Danville Crossroads, Kentucky

October 10 - Jefferson Davis asks Virginia to draft 4,500 blacks to complete fortifications at Richmond

October 11 - Skirmish near Helena, Arkansas

October 15 - Skirmish at Neely's Bend on the Cumberland River in Tennessee

October 18 - Garrison captured at Lexington, Kentucky in Morgan's Raid

October 22 - Skirmish at Fort Wayne, Indian Territory (now Oklahoma)

October 29 - Skirmish at Island Mound, Missouri, the first time in the Civil War that African American soldiers fight as part of an organized unit.

1863

October 5 - Torpedo attack on USS *New Ironsides* outside Charleston Harbor, South Carolina

October 9 - Bristoe Station Campaign begins in Virginia

October 14 – Battle of Bristoe Station, Va

October 16 - U.S. Grant named to command Union Military Division of the Mississippi

October 17 - Lincoln calls for 300,000 additional volunteers to join the army

October 19 – Calvary engagement known as the Buckland Races, Va.

October 20 - Skirmish at Warm Springs, North Carolina

October 26 - Fight at King's House near Waynesville, Missouri

October 28 - Engagement at Wauhatchie, Tennessee

October 29 - Fighting at Warsaw and Ozark Missouri

1864

October 2 – Engagement at Saltville, Virginia

October 5 - Battle of Allatoona Pass, Georgia

October 6 - Cavalry engagement at Brock's Gap, Virginia

October 7 - Capture of CSS *Florida* by USS *Wachusett* at Bahia, Brazil

October 7 - Battle of Darbytown Road, Virginia

October 9 - Engagement at Tom's Brook, Virginia

October 13 - Confederate Colonel John S. Mosby robs train near Harpers Ferry, West Virginia

October 19 - Battle of Cedar Creek (Belle Grove), Virginia

October 22 - Battle of Byram's Ford, Missouri

October 23 - Battle of Westport (Kansas City), Missouri

October 25 - Battle of Mine Creek (Marais Des Cygnes), Kansas

October 27 - Battle of Boydton Plank Road (Burgess' Mill), Virginia

October 27 - Engagement at Fair Oaks and on Darbytown Road, Virginia

October 27 - Union navy uses "Torpedo" to sink Confederate ironclad *Albermarle* at Plymouth, North Carolina

October 30 - Skirmish at Muscle Shoals, Alabama



BATTLE OF BALL'S BLUFF

Wikipedia

The Battle of Ball's Bluff (also known as the Battle of Leesburg or Battle of Harrison's Island) was an early battle of the American Civil War fought in Loudoun County, Virginia, on October 21, 1861, in which Union Army forces under Major General George B. McClellan suffered a humiliating defeat.

An operation was planned as a minor reconnaissance across the Potomac to establish whether the Confederates were occupying the strategically important

position of Leesburg. A false report of an unguarded Confederate camp encouraged Brigadier General Charles Pomeroy Stone to order a raid, which resulted in a clash with enemy forces.

On the morning of October 21, Union Colonel Devens' raiding party discovered the mistake made the previous evening by the patrol; there was no camp to raid. Opting not to recross the river immediately, Devens deployed his men in a tree line and sent a messenger back to report to Stone and get new instructions. On hearing the messenger's report, Stone sent him back to tell Devens that the remainder of the 15th Massachusetts (another 350 men) would cross the river and move to his position. When they arrived, Devens was to turn his raiding party back into a reconnaissance and move toward Leesburg.

Many of the Union soldiers were driven down the steep slope at the southern end of Ball's Bluff (behind the current location of the national cemetery)



and into the river. Boats attempting to cross back to Harrison Island were soon swamped and capsized. Many Federals, including some of the wounded, were drowned. Bodies floated downriver to Washington and even as far as Mount Vernon in the days following the battle. A total of 223 Federals were killed, 226 were wounded, and 553 were captured on the banks of the Potomac later that night.



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

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CHEROKEE TRACE

hmdb.org



Near this site the Cherokee Indians blazed an early Texas trail. They wanted a road from their settlements near Nacogdoches to their home reservation on the White River in Arkansas.

About 1821 they selected a man known for his uncanny sense of direction. Mounting a horse and dragging buffalo skins behind him, he set a northward course. A group of Indians followed, blazing the trees to mark the trail. Another group cleared away the heavy underbrush and trees. A third group established camping grounds by springs and planted Cherokee roses which still mark the route today.

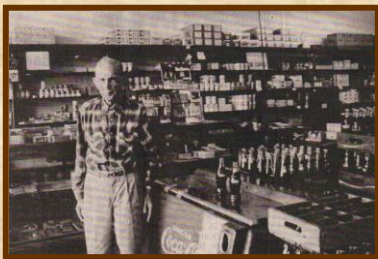
Sam Houston, friend of the Cherokee, travelled on his first Texas visit. David

Crockett and other Texas revolution fighters as well as thousands of settlers from northeastern United States first saw Texas from the road, many establishing homes nearby.

The Cherokee remained peaceful as long as friend Sam Houston was President of the Republic. In June 1839 they were ordered from Texas because of raids and intrigues with Mexican agents. A two-day battle ensued on the Neches River where their chief was killed. The tribe retreated, fighting, leaving Texas by the famous trail they made.



Bishop's Department Gilmer Texas



Henry Lee Davis in his store in Gilmer at the age of 91.

Mr. Davis had been in business for 68 years. After being discharged from the US Army in 1919 Mr. Davis started a Taxi Service in Gilmer.



RED ROCK

By: Christopher Long

Red Rock was a settlement and ferry crossing on the Sabine River two miles west of Gladewater off U. S. Highway 80 in southwestern Upshur County. Among the earliest communities in the county, Red Rock was probably first settled in the 1840s and served along with Coffeerville and Calloway as a stopping point for wagon trains. Several private ferries operated there during the 1850s, but Red Rock apparently declined after a large ferry came into use at Walter's Bluff around the time of the Civil War. No vestiges of the community remain.



19th Texas Infantry

CONFEDERATE FLYING MACHINE

by Pauli Poisuo



You have probably never heard of Dr. Finley Hunt, but if his invention had worked like he planned, he'd probably be as famous as any of history's great inventors. Halfway through the war, Dr. Hunt wrote a letter to Confederate president Jefferson Davis. He had a very special suggestion: He could turn the tide of the war with a steam-powered military flying machine that could bomb the enemy from above—a truly groundbreaking idea at a time when the height of aerial technology was the hot air balloon. Hunt was a dentist by trade, and the Wright Brothers' first successful flight was still some time away, but Davis became excited about the idea and introduced Hunt to General Robert E. Lee, who put him in contact with the Chief of the Engineer Bureau for the Confederacy. They immediately started researching the idea.

At least on paper, Hunt's idea was a fairly good one. Sadly, his lack of engineering background proved to be a hindrance to the project, and the Engineer Bureau soon reported that the machine could not be built.

"Associate yourself with men of good quality if you esteem your own reputation; for 'tis better to be alone than in bad company."...George Washington

"I predict future happiness for Americans, if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them."

Thomas Jefferson

"You will never know how much it has cost my generation to preserve your freedom. I hope you will make good use of it."

John Adams

The Bill of Rights protects Americans from the federal government; protections that few could conceive of living without. A Bill of Rights enshrined in the Constitution would help educate ordinary Americans about their government and prevent the same abuses of power his generation faced under British rule.

The delegates at the Constitutional Convention were gravely concerned that a new governing document might create a federal government that would deprive citizens of their rights. The early opponents of the Constitution, the "Antifederalists," demanded that the Constitution contain a Bill of Rights that explicitly guaranteed that individual rights were protected and liberty remained with the people.