Deo adjuvanti non timindin ~ With God's help, we must not fear

THE DIXON
BLUE LIGHT NEWS

THE VOICE OF THE
LT. GEORGE E. DIXON
CAMP # 1962
Sons of the
Confederate Veterans

April 2013 scvcamp1962.org

Illinois Convention

SPRINGFIELD ILLINOIS

Illinois Division, SCV
Annual Convention 2013

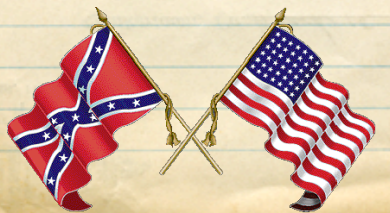
Saturday, April 20, 2013

Crown Plaza Hotel
Springfield, Illinois

SPEAKER
AOT Councilman
Larry McCluney

COST @ $25 PER
Person

If you plan to attend please bring your payment to the April meeting.



New Members

JOHN THOMAS KRUSE, SR.

husband and father of two, lives on Long Island in Suffolk County, New York. He is an engineer with a regional communications carrier. He holds a number of professional certifications and periodically conducts professional seminars and courses dealing with communication methodologies.

In his spare time, John participates in competitive rifle shooting and is a National Rifle Association certified rifle and shotgun instructor as well as a range safety officer. He volunteers as a rifle shooting and shotgun shooting merit badge counselor with the Boy Scouts of America and in the recent past, provided marksmanship training to cadets of the Civil Air Patrol. He has also volunteered time with a local gun club's junior small bore rifle team.

John has volunteered with the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts as a Den Leader, Assistant Scout Master and a Unit Commissioner. He has also volunteered as a photographer for a number of local youth sports leagues.

John has been an amateur genealogist since 1994. He is a life member of the National Rifle Association. He maintains memberships with the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the General and New York Societies of Mayflower Descendants and the National and Empire State Societies of Sons of the American Revolution. John is also a Master Mason, raised at Suffolk Lodge, No. 60, F&AM in Port Jefferson, New York.

John Thomas Kruse, Sr.

ALAN AND PHILLIP LEONARD

Alan is a lawyer in Flora, and his father Philip is a CPA in Effingham.

The ancestor they are joined under was Nicholas Barger Leonard, Pvt., Co. B, 63rd VA Infantry. He is buried in the Ingraham Cemetery in Ingraham, Clay County, IL. He is

John Thomas Kruse's Ancestor

George Washington Henry,
Pvt., Co. A,
24th NC Infantry.

1st cousin
5 times removed

New Members

Aaron's 3-great- grandfather, and is Phillip's 2-great-grandfather..

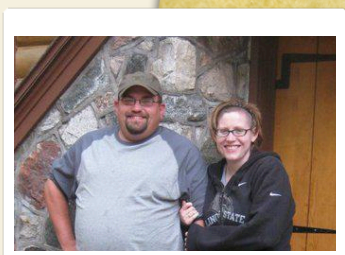
They will be sworn in at the April 15th meeting in Flora.

GREGORY MATTHEW CARTER

My name is Greg Carter and I am originally from Rockford, Illinois. I moved to Quincy in 2012 to finish my long-overdue college education. I was encouraged to join the Dixon Camp by several members of the Hecker Camp No. 443, SUVCW, where I also currently belong. I have been a member of the SUVCW since 2002 but have had a love for the Confederacy since I was old enough to read. My Confederate ancestor was my 3rd great uncle, Henry S. Patrick. Private, Co. L, 50th VA Infantry.

I currently work part-time as a freelance writer and photographer for the Quincy Herald-Whig newspaper, and as a paid writing tutor at Quincy University. When not working, I attend classes full-time. This summer I begin my senior thesis project, which will be an in-depth study of the Union occupation of New Orleans from 1862-1865. Eventually I will have to present the paper before a review board, so perhaps I can present it at a camp meeting for practice when the time gets closer!

Before moving to Quincy I spent 10 years working as a security planner. I was in the Army JROTC and the U.S. Army as well. In addition to the SUVCW and now SCV, I am a Mason and a member of the National History Honor Society. I am engaged to Kim Johnson, also from Rockford, and also a descendant of a Union soldier. We enjoy traveling together, trying out bizarre foods, driving back roads, and our favorite place to visit in the world is New Orleans.



Gregory Matthew Carter's

Ancestor

Henry S. Patrick.
Private,
Co. L.
50th VA Infantry

3rd great uncle

News from around the camp

We have several new members who have joined our camp recently, and have several others who are looking to join. We want to keep up the momentum and reach out to people around us to share our heritage. Think what we could do if each person just brought in one new member. Let's do it.

Gale Red

DAVID SHAW

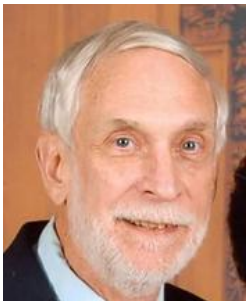
Our very good friend, David Lloyd Shaw, passed away on March 16, 2013 at his home in O'Fallon, MO after a long fight with a number of serious health issues. He was buried at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in St. Louis, MO. Dave was a friend to all and loved life to the fullest. His knowledge of period long guns, his kindness, and fairness will be remembered by all of our members who dealt with Dave at the gun shows. For those of us who were privileged to know him, our lives were enriched by his friendship.

It is with sad hearts that we bid our friend good-bye.

PHIL TATE'S MOTHER PASSES

I've been out of pocket the past week or so due to the death and funeral of my mother in Clarksville, Tennessee. She passed away last Tuesday after a 3-day episode with a bad heart valve, three days short of her 87th birthday. Had a great funeral service, a really nice potluck at the church afterwards by the church ladies, and a reunion of relatives at her house after that. All went well. I and my three brothers who live there are presently busying ourselves with closing everything out, so I'll no doubt have another trip or two. Anyway, just wanted to let you know. Will be glad to get back into SCV activities.

Phil Tate



Dave Shaw

We want to keep up the momentum and reach out to people around us to share our heritage.

Think what we could do if each person just brought in one new member.

Let's do it.

News from around the camp

COMMANDER MARK MORGAN'S MOTHER

Mark's mother is undergoing chemotherapy and radiation treatments to help prepare for cancer surgery soon. She is having a very difficult time with the treatments and needs our thoughts and prayers as she continues with them.

Fortunately, most of our members are recovered from their surgeries and illnesses and are doing fairly well. We thank everyone who took the time and thought to remember them during their times of trial.

If you know of news concerning any of our members to share, please contact Gale Red or John Fulton. Thanks.

SQUAD EAST MINUTES

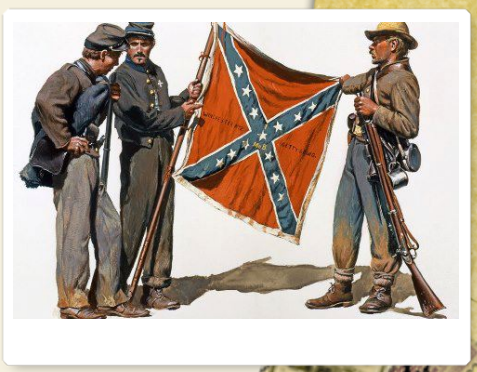
The minutes from Squad East were not available. We'll print them in next month's Blue Light News.

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

The weekend of the 24th notwithstanding, spring is actually on the way and with it a full slate of activities, starting with our meeting on 4 April. On the 20th one contingent of the Dixon Camp will make its annual drive to Springfield, Illinois, for the Division convention while another group will take part in SWIC's War Between the States Living History Day in Belleville. As always – and as part of our status as the largest of the Illinois Division camps – I'd like to see a particularly strong showing at Springfield but I invite all Dixon camp members to get out for one or the other event. The schedule will pick up from here.

Hold high the flag!

Respectfully,
Mark L. Morgan



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Minutes of the Dixon Camp

MARCH 7, 2013

Minutes of the 7 March 2013 Meeting of the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp #1962
Sgt. Brandon Baker, acting in the place of Sgt.-at-Arms Ronald Doran (absent for health reasons), called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Commander Mark Morgan welcomed all present and gave the invocation. Sgt. Brandon Baker, Sgt. Joe Starek, and Ron Lakin presented the colors. The Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to the Confederate Flag was accomplished. Then Walter LeGette came forward to be sworn into the SCV and the Dixon Camp. Commander Morgan read the charge and Adjutant Red inducted new Compatriot Walter LeGette. His qualifying Confederate ancestor is his 2-great-grandfather, Stephen Foxworthy Godbold Haselton, Pvt., Co. A. 6th SC Battalion of Infantry, CSA. Following his induction, he was welcomed into the camp and presented to the members present.

The roll call of those present included: Mark Morgan, Billy and Helen Altman, Joe and Judy Starek, Bill and Janice Beasley, Walter Hall, Michael Pierpoint, Brandon baker, Dale Rice, Walter LeGette, Bill Jacobus, David McAuley, Ralph Oleschlager, Jim Conn, Betty Lawrence, Phil Tate, Earl Armstrong, Gale and Sharon Red, StEphen Wheat, Steve Wilson, Bill Boyd, John and Jane McKee, Nick Wilson, Jim Arrington, Cassandra Broomfield, Robert hardy, Dan Crafton, Ron Lakin, John Gideon, and Mike Bolds.

Under Procedural Business, the minutes of the previous meeting as presented in the March newsletter were approved unanimously without change. The Finance Report was likewise unanimously accepted.
Under Communications, Adjutant Red announced that Compatriot Ron Doran was finally home from his stay in the medical facilities, but not up to attending the meeting tonight. Compatriot Billy Boyd is recovering well from his surgery and is in attendance. And compatriot Tom Sheeler is continuing his recovery and hopes to be back with us soon. Lady Janice Beasley is recovering very nicely from her very recent surgery and is even up to being with us for the meeting tonight.

Illinois Division Convention

Under Old Business, Commander Morgan apologized for being unable to follow through with plans to journey to Beauvoir, MS for the rededication of the Jefferson Davis Presidential Library to be held on 16 March. Pressing family health issues require that he remain in the area and close to home. It appeared that no one else was able to make the trip on their own.
Under New Business, Commander Morgan covered the following items:

9-10 Mar- Recruiting table at gun show at St. Clair Fairground, volunteers needed

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1 Apr - John Gideon,
Brad Oyer, & Mike Mauer
5 Apr - Doug Lawrence
7 Apr - John Kruse
9 Apr - C.F. Marley (age 92)
12 Apr - Richard Campen, Jr.
16 Apr - Chris Rutledge
17 Apr - Donald Young
25 Apr - Charles Lee
28 Apr - John McKee

Minutes of the Dixon Camp

MARCH 7, 2013

20 Apr - Illinois Division Convention in Springfield, $25 per person, important we have a good showing
20 Apr - SWIC CW Days, Lt. Cmdr. Billy Altman will head up a group to set up Camp Dixon and participate at SWIC, contact Billy if you can support this activity.
18 May - Annual Alton Confederate Memorial Event at the north Alton Confederate Cemetery, to be held at 11 am. Uniforms requested, but not required.
25 May - Memorial Day Observance at the Mound City national Cemetery in Mound City, more information to be provided at May meeting.
27 May - Memorial Day Observance at Jefferson barracks national cemetery in St. Louis, MO, times to be announced at May meeting.
27 Jul - Smithton Homecoming, set up Camp Dixon on Saturday and march in the parade, times TBA.
3 Aug - Mascoutah Homecoming
17 Aug - Freeburg Homecoming
The Labor Day Re-enactment will be held as originally scheduled at the Fulkerson Mansion in Jerseyville. We plan to set up camp and participate at least on Saturday and Sunday.

Once the business portion of the meeting was accomplished, Commander Morgan excused himself and departed having had word of a family death. We took a short break for refreshments furnished by Compatriot John Gideon.

When we reconvened, Adjutant Red introduced our guest speaker and good friend Kevin Monroe who is the former head of the History department at SWIC. A good friend and repeat speaker, Kevin has Confederate heritage from Missouri and is looking to join the SCV and our camp soon. Kevin spell-bound everyone with his wonderful presentation concerning the roots of the War between the States in the cultural, economic, political, and religious differences that developed from the earliest of times in Colonial America and the years leading up to the war. Step by step, he helped everyone understand the many issues that developed and had such major impact on the states that made up the Northern and Southern regions. It was a fascinating recall of some of the more major issues contributing to the war as it approached and spilled over. Kevin took the time to answer numerous questions after his presentation. We thank Kevin once more for another well done and thought-provoking program.

At the close of the program, Adjutant Red gave the benediction and the meeting was adjourned until April 4th.

Memorial Day

May 25

Memorial Day Observance at the Mound City national Cemetery in Mound City, Illinois

More information to be provided at May meeting.

Commanders Dispatch

COMMANDER MARK MORGAN

Compatriots –

With the Confederate States of America entering its third year of war with the United States, the attention of both nations remained primarily fixed on the east. There, the Army of Northern Virginia and the Army of the Potomac continued to jockey around, each trying to gain the advantage.

However, political and domestic issues also remained at the forefront with both nations. For example, on 1 April the North's highly unpopular Conscription Law went into effect. Down South, March 1863's passage of the Impressment Act and April's Tax-in-Kind Law created their own discontent. With the economy in dire straits, the two laws authorized the Confederate States government to seize whatever it needed from the populace in support of the armies, including food, fuel, supplies and even slaves. Confederate citizens responded by hoarding supplies, demand went up, supplies went down and prices went through the roof.

On 2 April, with a barrel of flour going for $200 Confederate, a group of Richmond women marched from the George Washington Monument to the governor's mansion to present their complaints about the state's financial distress to Governor John L. Letcher. He refused to see them, so the crowd – having grown substantially – headed into the commercial district and started trashing businesses, particularly bakeries and grocers, while chanting "We are starving!" and "bread or blood!"

The mob refused the entreaties of Mayor Joseph May to return home and also ignored Governor Letcher (who finally decided to make an appearance) and President Jefferson Davis. The arrival of the City Battalion and threats of armed violence finally forced the dispersal of the mob; afterwards, about 60 men and women were taken into custody and placed on trial. Similar riots took place in Augusta, Atlanta, Columbus, Macon, Salisbury, High Point and Mobile. As one author noted, "…a nation of farmers was, indeed, going hungry"

At least militarily, things still looked fairly positive for the Confederacy at the start of the month. On 7 April, a Union flotilla of nine ironclads – including seven Monitor-type ships of the Passaic-class – under the command of Rear Admiral Samuel DuPont, attempted to force Charleston Harbor and shell the city, hopefully into submission. They failed; in about two hours, Confederate

artillerymen got off over 2000 shots at the Northern ships, in return for only 154 rounds from the ironclads. The experimental USS Keokuk, with two fixed gun towers on her deck, was seriously holed, having sustained over 90 hits, including 19 shots below the waterline. She sank later that night off Morris Island without loss of life.

On 10 April Maj Gen Earl Van Dorn's 1st Cavalry Corps attacked Yankee troops under Maj Gen Gordon Granger in Franklin, Tennessee. Brig Gen Nathan Bedford Forrest's troops managed to recapture a Confederate artillery battery from the 4th US Cavalry. That constituted the "major" Southern victory of the fight; Van Dorn pulled back, leaving Union forces in control of the area.

Elsewhere, over 11-15 April Confederates under Lt General James Longstreet managed to lay siege to Suffolk, Virginia, and cut off Union Navy access to the city via the Nansemond River. Down in Louisiana, Maj Gen Nathaniel P. "Commissary" Banks (former Speaker of the House and governor or Massachusetts, widely considered one of the worst if not the worst of the political generals), engaged in operations in the western part of the state. Banks' troops managed to record several small victories, culminating in the capture of Alexandria.

Far bigger events took place in the mid-South, involved a lot of horse soldiers and generally tied up Confederate forces in Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia for nearly a month. On 11 April, Col Abel Streight departed Nashville with orders to take the railroad and supply center of Rome, Georgia. He hit the field with four regiments of infantry, two companies of cavalry, two mountain howitzers and about 700 "noisy, cranky, foul-smelling" mules.

Six days later, on the 17th, Col Benjamin Grierson's 1700-man cavalry column departed La Grange with the intent of rampaging through Mississippi. A former music teacher who absolutely hated horses, Grierson moved out with the 6th and 7th Illinois Cavalry and the 2nd Iowa Cavalry and engaged in a wandering path of destruction, burning railroad facilities, supplies, bridges and freeing slaves.

As a result, the proverbial stage was set for two major confrontations in May. At the end of April, Maj General U.S. Grant started moving his Army of the Tennessee across the Mississippi River at Bruinsburg. In the eastern theater, Maj General "Fighting Joe" Hooker's Army of the Potomac crossed the Rapidan and Rappahannock Rivers and went into camp in the vicinity of the Chancellor family home. Hooker was ready to corner and defeat the Army of Northern Virginia, which lay stretched out between Chancellorsville and Fredericksburg.

However, General Lee had other plans…

Lt. George E. Dixon

THE DIXON BLUE LIGHT NEWS

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CAMP # 1962
Sons of the
Confederate Veterans

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Chaplain & Web Master
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OUR NEXT MEETING, APRIL 4, 2013

The monthly meeting of the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp #1962, SCV will be held at 6:30 pm on Thursday evening April 4, 2013. The meeting will be held at the SWIC Senior Citizen Center on the corner of East B and North Church Streets, in Belleville. Parking is available immediately across the street from the building. The building is located at 201 North Church, just three blocks east of North Illinois on East B. To get to the auditorium where we will have the meeting, ask the gentleman at the desk what room we are in. If you have any questions, call Gale Red for directions at 618-622-8949.

April's Speaker: Walter Hall - Rosie the Riveter, Women Workers in the Civil War