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

December 2013 scvcamp1962.org

Merry Christmas from the Confederate States of America

Columbia, South Carolina

Happy holidays from the birthplace of secession!

When viewed from Main Street the new state Christmas tree seems to have an unusual topper -- a Confederate soldier.

Seems the tree is just a tad too short to cover the Civil War monument behind it.

Oops.

Merry Christmas!

Minutes of the Dixon Camp

NOVEMBER 7, 2013

The members and friends of the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp # 1962, S.C.V., conducted their monthly Muster at 1830 hours on Nov. 2013 at the SWIC PSOP Center, 201 North Church Street, Belleville, IL, this being the 10th Muster of the year for 2013.

CALL TO ORDER: Acting Sgt. of Arms Ron Lakin called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION: Compatriot Gale Red provided the invocation.

PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS: All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States and saluted the Confederate Flag which were properly displayed at the meeting.

COMMANDER'S WELCOME: Commander Mark Morgan welcomed everyone to the meeting.

SWEARING IN: None

PROCEDURAL BUSINESS:

ROLL CALL: Gale Red, Phil Tate, John and Jane McKee, Billy and Helen Altman, John Fulton, Michelle Hampton, Allysse Hampton, Stephen Wheat, Harris Young, Donal Young, Terry Young, Dale Rice, Dwight Moore, David McAuley, Jim Fulton, James Lumma, J. C. Gideon, Janice and Bill Beasley, Mark Morgan, Chris Rutledge, Ron Lakin, Brandon Baker, James Conn, and Robert Hardy.

OCTOBER MINUTES: A motion was made by James Conn to accept the October minutes and was seconded by Dwight Moore. Motioned carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: The camp has $4,491.53 in the account. Of that amount, we have received $385 for the Lee/ Jackson ball. We paid $420 dues to the Illinois Division. James Conn made motion to accept and it was 2nd by David McAuley. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Tom Kennedy, Commander of the Sterling Price Camp from St. Louis reported the passing of the Missouri's last Real Son, Luther John Fulton made the presentation of the Honorary Title of Kentucky Colonel to Billy Altman.

Billy Altman - Honorable Colonel for the Common wealth of Kentucky

Billy has become the newest Kentucky Colonel, and is probably one of only a very few in the State of Illinois.

Members at the Squad East Meeting, November 18, 2013

Walter Hall

Lucas. Commander Morgan represented the camp at his funeral.

- SCV Leadership Conference to be held in Kansas City, MO on 16 Nov. 2013.

- SCV Leadership Conference to be held in Indianapolis, IN on 14 Dec. 2013.

- Gale Red read the letter to the Division Adjutant, James Barr, to accompany our 2013-14 division dues check. In the letter we expressed our serious concerns at the state of the division and the IMMEDIATE need to address the matter.

OLD BUSINESS:

- The Hecker Camp has their annual encampment at the Our Lady of the Snows on 22 Nov. Event beings at 6 PM with dinner served shortly thereafter. Applications need to be in by 20 Nov.

- Commander Morgan explained the state of the IL Division and the actions he is taking to try to address the issue with the Division Commander, Jacob Lake, and The Army of Tennessee Commander, Tom Strain. To date, nothing appears to have been accomplished.

- Gale Red gave a brief report of his trip to Omaha for the memorial for Pvt. Thomas C. Sexton who is the namesake for the new SCV Camp in Omaha. Gale was able to present their founding charter at a dinner following the memorial. This was, to the best of our knowledge, the first ever Memorial by the SCV in the state of Nebraska. We hope there will be many more.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

David Hammers - 3 Dec

Bill Beasley - 4 Dec

Bill Presley II - 19 Dec

Tom Sheeler - 20 Dec

Arthur Tulak - 26 Dec

Jacob Kicklighter - 27 Dec

Sam Booth - 28 Dec

Minutes of the Dixon Camp

NOVEMBER 7, 2013

- Gale Red asked people to please get their reservations and money in for the Lee/Jackson Ball to be held on January 25th, 2014 at Belle Court Manor in Belleville. Please have your reservations and money in by NLT January 14th.

- John Fulton made the presentation of the Honorary Title of Kentucky Colonel to Billy Altman. Billy has become the newest Kentucky Colonel, and is probably one of only a very few in the State of Illinois.

NEW BUSINESS:

- There will be a Veterans Day parade to be held in Florissant, Missouri at 10 AM on November 10th. Please see Gale for directions.

- Anyone who can is encouraged to attend the two leadership conferences to be held in Kansas City, Missouri and in Indianapolis, Indiana. Please see Gale for specifics.

- Nominations for replacement of the Camp 1st Lt. Commander were made. John Fulton and Dwight Moore were nominated. Election for that position to be held at the December meeting.

Events coming up this fall:

22 Nov: Hecker Camp Annual Dinner, Our Lady of the Snows, IL

25 Jan 2014: Annual Lee/ Jackson Ball, Belleville, IL

FORMAL PRESENTATION: Terry Young, the son of Harris Young, presented a program detailing John Hunt Morgan's infamous raid into Indiana and Ohio. He laid out the route and chronicled it's movement and the resulting excitement. The mission was largely a failed mission for a number of reasons, and ended up with the loss of many valuable men and resources for the South. Morgan himself and many of his men were captured and imprisoned. The presentation was very well done and well appreciated by all.

REFRESHMENTS: The refreshments were furnished by Janice and Bill Beasley.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, 5 Dec., 6:30 pm, same location.

BENEDICTION: Gale Red provided the benediction.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Compatriot Steve Wheat was sworn in as Commander of the Col. Friedrich K. Hecker Camp #443 (SUVCW); at the camp's annual installation dinner on November 22, 2013.

Minutes of Squad East

NOVEMBER 18, 2013

The monthly meeting of Squad East at Anthony's Wild West Restaurant in Flora, Illinois was called to order at 6:30 PM by squad leader Sgt. Marcus Pat Booth. The invocation was given by Chaplain Sam Booth. Sgt. Booth let the pledge of Allegiance and the Salute to the Confederate Flag. The roll call of attendees included: Pat Booth, Dennis Headlee, Larry Weber, Gale Red, Sam Booth, Walter Hall, Vernon DeSelms, and guest John Winterfeld.

The minutes of the September meeting were approved with a motion to approve by Dennis Headlee , a second by Sam Booth, and a unanimous vote. Under Old Business it was noted that the planned trip to the Chickamauga Battlefield was postponed to be rescheduled in the Springtime. Under New Business, Sam Booth reported that he was hoping for an acquaintance of his to become a new camp member. Dennis Headlee and Pat Booth will be heading to the Franklin, TN CW relic show the 1st weekend in December. It was also decided to have the Christmas dinner and meeting at a restaurant in Mt. Vernon on Dec. 16, with Dennis Headlee making the arrangements. Dennis will be making the January meeting presentation.

The evening's presentation was made by Walter Hall on Major general "Prince" John Magruder, CSA: A Character Profile. Walter discussed a defense of Magruder's actions during the war, most particularly during the Peninsular Campaign. He pointed out in Magruder's defense that he had a considerable lack of field support and assistance from others, including his superiors. It appears that Magruder's reputation improved after the successful battle to retake Galveston Bay in Texas. Walter emphasized that Magruder's tactics and strategies are still studied and emulated in military colleges today.

Chaplain Sam Booth gave the benediction and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM. The next meeting will be on December 16th.

Respectfully Submitted
Dennls Headlee

LEE - JACKSON BALL
JANUARY 25, 2014

PLEASE RSVP BY
JANUARY 14, 2014

BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

Commander's Dispatch

COMMANDER MARK MORGAN ~ DECEMBER 2013

Compatriots –

In December 1863, following the massive Confederate defeat at Chattanooga and with winter coming on strong, both sides in the War of Northern Aggression concentrated on moving pieces around the board. For most of the field forces, the efforts revolved around going into winter camp and finding enough food, forage and fuel to last until the spring.

Ah, but a few surprises took place. On 1 December, Gen Braxton Bragg, in a letter to President Davis, admitted he'd undoubtedly erred in retaining command of the Army of Tennessee while not moving more aggressively on the Union garrison trapped in Chattanooga. Then again, General Bragg also felt obligated to point out that in his opinion the president had also erred in leaving him in command. Not surprisingly, back in Richmond the clock started counting down on Bragg's further command of a major field army.

About the same time this took place, Maj Gen George Gordon Meade pulled the Army of the Potomac north across the Rapidan River, thus ending his Mine Run Campaign, which had started on 7 November. Meade's second post-Gettysburg attempt at cornering Gen Robert E. Lee and the Army of Northern Virginia hadn't played out too well; according to Encyclopedia Virginia, the northerners ran into bad weather, swollen rivers and the usual confusion resulting from large unit movements which blunted Meade's efforts at forcing a major confrontation. Upon facing well-entrenched Confederates holding the high ground along the Rapidan, Meade declined to press the point and, on 2 December, moved his Army back north.

For his part, Lee expressed frustration on not destroying or at least substantially damaging the Army of the Potomac. He also apparently started gaining some apprehension over his selections of Dick Ewell and AP Hill for corps command, as neither proved up to the task during the brief Mine Run confrontation. A soldier from North Carolina probably summed up the proceedings best, writing, the campaign was "…one of hard marching day after day and preparations for battles that did not materialize."

Some miles to the south, the day after Meade crossed the Rapidan northbound, Lt Gen James Longstreet pulled his Confederate force from its trenches facing Knoxville and headed northeast for winter quarters and eventual reunification with the Army of Northern Virginia. The arrival in Knoxville of Maj Gen William T. Sherman on 6

Commander's Dispatch

COMMANDER MARK MORGAN ~ DECEMBER 2013

December with the Army of Tennessee formally marked the end of the siege.

While withdrawing, Longstreet's troops got in a dustup on 14 December. Federal forces had probed the locale of Longstreet's winter camp and, on the 14th, the Confederate commander responded by attacking, driving a Union cavalry corps under Brig Gen James Shackleford back about 15 miles at the Battle of Bean's Station. Longstreet's independent corps finally settled in for the winter near Russellville, Tennessee.

On 8 December, United States President Abraham Lincoln issued his Proclamation of Amnesty and Reconstruction, with an eye towards both those Confederate territories already under Union control and the postwar reunification of the US. The proclamation incorporated three major points: immediate and full pardon and restoration of property to those who had participated in the "rebellion," save for senior southern leaders and military officers; the formation of new state governments in those southern states now under Union control where 10 percent of the population had taken an oath of allegiance; and the former Confederate states would be allowed to deal with freed slaves on their own, as long they didn't attempt to reinstate slavery. Some in the Republican Party thought Lincoln's terms were too forgiving of the Confederates; the issue would come to a head following the president's assassination.

As the year finally drew down, two final command initiatives emanated from Richmond. On 16 December, the government issued orders to Gen Joseph E. Johnston to assume command of the Army of Tennessee from Braxton Bragg. He did so at Dalton, Georgia, on the 27th.

On 22 December, Lt Gen Leonidas Polk received orders to assume command of the Department of Mississippi and East Alabama. The "Fighting Bishop" and his troops – as well as Southern soldiers and families throughout the Confederate states – subsequently attempted to settle in for a quiet Christmas, one which followed a very difficult year.

Finally, while not related to the War Between the States, a couple of particularly notable births took place during the month of December 1863. On 18 December, Franz Ferdinand was born in Graz, Austria. Later the Archduke of Austria and heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne, his assassination (along with wife Sophie) in Sarajevo on 28 June 1914 initiated a chain of international actions and

Commander's Dispatch

COMMANDER MARK MORGAN ~ DECEMBER 2013

reactions which culminated in The Great War.

And, on 16 December, Spanish philosopher Jorge Agustin Nicolás Ruiz de Santayana y Borrás was born in Madrid Spain. Y'all might be familiar with his most famous quote: "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

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Our next meeting will prove particularly important as we'll be voting for a new 1st Lieutenant Commander for the Dixon Camp, as a replacement (or more accurately, relief) for the recently retired but still legendary (just ask him…better yet, ask his bride Helen) Billy Altman. Otherwise, the meeting will yet another opportunity to meet, swap stories and listen in on an excellent presentation. Your vote counts; please make a point of attending and in the meantime, as always,

Hold high the flag!

Respectfully,
Mark L. Morgan
Commander

A DIFFICULT DECISION…

In a letter to his sister Robert E. Lee expressed the difficulty he had in making his decision to resign his commission in the US Army:

"The whole South is in a state of revolution, into which Virginia, after a long struggle, has been drawn; and though I recognize no necessity for this state of things, and would have forborne and pleaded to the end for redress of grievances, real or supposed, yet in my own person I had to meet the question whether I should take part against my native State. With all my devotion to the Union, and the feeling of loyalty and duty of an American citizen, I have not been able to make up my mind to raise my hand against my relatives, my children, my home. I have, therefore, resigned my commission in the army, and save in defense of my native State — with the sincere hope that my poor services may never be needed — I hope I may never be called upon to draw my sword."

Source: Personal Reminiscences, Anecdotes, and Letters of Gen. Robert E. Lee, by John William Jones, 1875.

From: Defending the Heritage, Robert Mestas, Face Book

New Members

THE DIXON CAMP CONTINUES TO GROW

Camp Dixon continues to grow and expand. We welcome ten new members, three transfers and seven new members. Please welcome each new member and help him feel at home with us. For the transfers, we are still awaiting some of the details of their ancestors. For most we have short bios and pictures to help introduce them to you:

Rob Akers from Broadlands, IL, formerly of the Kemshall Camp of Decatur, IL. His ancestor is his 3-Great-Grandfather, Thomas Akers, Pvt. 72nd VA Militia Infantry.
Jim Fulton from Sawyerville, IL. His ancestor is his 1st cousin 4 times removed, James Dent Higdon, Pvt., Co. F, 12 KY Cav.
John R. Loper of Seabrook, TX. His ancestor is his Great –Grandfather, Otto Johnny Johnson, Pvt., Co. E, Texas Frontier Infantry.
James D. Lumma from Jerseyville, IL. His ancestor is his 1st cousin 3 times removed, James Dent Higdon, Pvt., Co. F, 12 KY Cav.
Nicholas W. Muehlebach from Niantic, IL, formerly of the Kempshall Camp of Decatur, IL. We are awaiting his information.
Larry E. Peterson from Goreville, IL, formerly of the Spince Blankenship Camp of Marion, IL. We are awaiting his information.
Nickolas L. Presley from Macomb, MI. His ancestor is his 4-Great Grandfather, Jesse Thomas, Pvt. Co. D, 28th TN Cav.
William T. Presley II from Macomb, MI. His ancestor is his 4-Great Grandfather, Jesse Thomas, Pvt. Co. D, 28th TN Cav.
William T. Presley from Macomb, MI. His ancestor is his 3-Great Grandfather, Jesse Thomas, Pvt. Co. D, 28th TN Cav.
Timothy D. South from Rowley, MA. His ancestor is his 5th Cousin 2 times removed, Thaddeus Marion Parker, Pvt., Capt. Wm. D. Brown's Co., 4th battery MD Art.

We still have a few more possible members in the wings waiting to join. Keep up your recruiting and bring your friends to share our special heritage and our love of War Between the States History.

New Members

THE DIXON CAMP CONTINUES TO GROW

DAVID SOUTHALL

David grew up in Pennsylvania. He went on to graduate from Gordon College in Wenham, Massachusetts in 1962. In 1959, Tim married Barbara Myers. They have three children, 5 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Tim retired from teaching and coaching in the public school system after 22 years. He continued as a general contractor and owned his own company. He is a leader and actively involved in his community church. Tim resides in Massachusetts where he and his wife and their entire family are together weekly in family activities.

MEET THE PRESLEY'S.

Pictured Left to Right are Billy (Age 16) , Bill and Nick (Age 13). I'm an Electrical Engineer. My job now focuses on Electrical/Electronic Systems design for the vehicles. Billy spends his free time following politics and collecting antique medical curiosities. Nick enjoys playing soccer for his school and gathering with his friends online to play "Call of Duty: Black Ops". Bill loves spending time with his family (which also includes wife Lisa and a Bagel Hound named Sam) and in his spare time plays the banjo. Billy, Nick and Bill all wanted to say a special "Thanks!" to Gale Red of the SCV Camp 1962 for helping us uncover our family history.

ROB AKERS

Hey Yall! My name is Rob Akers AKA (Rebel) I'm a Vol. Fire Fighter Been One since I was 18, and now I'm 30, I was raised in Texas; loved it and plan on moving back one day. I love my Heritage.

New Members

THE DIXON CAMP CONTINUES TO GROW

Rob Akers, continued

My GGG Grandfather Thomas Akers was in the 72nd Virginia Militia, and his son John Akers also served in the CSA. I would love to see people be more active in saving our heritage. I tell people, if you're proud of where you come from, raise you flag high and don't be sorry. Remember heritage - not hate!

JOHN LOPER

Born in Houston, TX in 1951 and grew up in San Antonio, TX. Graduated from Robert E. Lee High School in 1969 and enrolled in Lehigh University in Bethlehem, PA where I received both a B.A. Degree (Applied Science) and B.S. Degree (Chemical Engineering). Married Lorraine Elizabeth Dudley in 1973 (celebrating 40th wedding anniversary this year) and moved to Pittsburgh, PA to go to graduate school at Carnegie Mellon University (CMU). Left after one year and went to work at FMC Corporation at chemical plant in 1975 in West Virginia. Twin sons born June 6, 1977. Received Masters Degree in Chemical Engineering from West Virginia College of Graduate Studies in 1979. Promoted to Health and Safety Manager of FMC Chemical Group in 1980 and moved to Philadelphia, PA. Left FMC in 1986 to go into Environmental Consulting at Roux Associates, Inc. Moved back to Houston, TX in 1996. Opened my own environmental consulting firm (The Loper Group, Inc.) in 2002. Five grandchildren (ages 1 through 9), Lutheran religion, enjoy outdoors (bicycling, hunting, fishing) and spending time with family.

Ancestor: Otto Johnny Johnson, Pvt., Capt. Samuel Fossett's Co., Texas Frontier Cavalry.

TRAVIS CONNER and his wife Karen from Webster, MA just announced the birth of their son Jaxson Ray Castaldo-Conner who was born on 11/9/2013 at 12:33. Travis has also joined a Mechanized Cavalry unit back east. Our congratulations go out to Travis and Karen on the birth of their son Jaxson.

SCV ANNUAL GRAND BALL

Honoring General Robert E. Lee and General Stonewall Jackson
on
Saturday, January 25, 2014
at the
Bellecourt Manor
225 East "A" Street
Belleville IL

The Lt. George E. Dixon Camp #1962 (Sons of Confederate Veterans) cordially invites you to attend their 12th Annual Grand Ball for a night of fun, food, family, friends, and fellowship, plus open/period dancing, including the Grand March and the Virginia Reel.

6:00 P.M. Doors Open
6:30 P.M. Delicious Buffet Dinner

- **Outstanding Period Music by The Chris Talley Trio**
- **Professional Photographer, Bill Freeman**
- **Silent Auction**
- **50/50 Drawing**
- **Pay-As-You-Go Bar**

SUGGESTED ATTIRE: **Period attire encouraged, but not required.**
COST (per person): **$35.00** ***(check payable to Lt. George E. Dixon Camp #1962)***
POC: **Adjutant Gale Red, 5 Hunters Pt, O'Fallon IL 62269-3133, Cell 618-622-8949 or 618-979-7853**

Reservation/Payment Due: January 10, 2014

(NOTE: No extensions or refunds after this date)

Reservation Form for SCV Lee/Jackson Grand Ball, January 25, 2014

Make check payable to: Lt. George E. Dixon Camp #1962

Due: January 10, 2014 (no extensions or refunds after this date)

Name (please print): _____

Name (please print): _____ **Dress color:** _____

Address (please print): _____

Cell/Phone Number: _____

Number Attending: _____ **@ $35.00/person. Payment for $**_____ **enclosed.**

Please mail reservation form/payment to: Adjutant Gale Red
5 Hunters Pt
O'Fallon IL 62269-3133

Lt. George E. Dixon

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

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OUR NEXT MEETING, DECEMBER 5, 2013

The monthly meeting of the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp #1962, SCV will be held at 6:30 pm on Thursday evening December 5, 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.

NEXT MEETING, DECEMBER 5, 2013: CASSANDRA BROOMFIELD WILL PRESENT A PROGRAM ON SOME OF HER FAMILY'S VERY HISTORIC PERSONALITIES.