

Deo adjuvanti non timindin (With God's help, we need not fear)

THE DIXON BLUE LIGHT NEWS



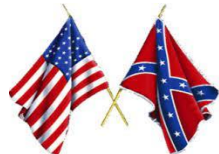
Lt. George E. Dixon Camp #1962
Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV)

www.scvcamp1962.org

Editor: Johnny Kicklighter Email: Johnnywkick@gmail.com



MAY 2024

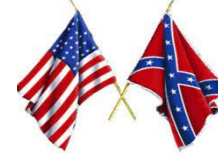


PROGRAM INFO FOR NEXT MTG, 15 MAY

PRESENTATION: TBA

PRESENTER: TBA

REFRESHMENTS: Johnny Kicklighter



CAMP MEETINGS

Meetings are open to the public and are, except as announced, held on the third Thursday evening of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the:

Shiloh Assembly of God Church
4035 Lebanon Avenue
Shiloh, Illinois 62221

We try to have an informative program with a speaker or film of interest at all meetings. Anyone with a Confederate ancestor or just having an interest in Civil War history is invited to attend.

Questions? Call John McKee, 618-491-9472

CAMP MISSION

The camp accepts its covenanted responsibility to maintain and preserve the Christian principles held by the Southern people that led them to their decision to defend the right of constitutional self-government. We strive to educate ourselves first and then the public to a fuller and more complete understanding of the true history of the period of the War Between the States. We seek to preserve the memory and honor of the noble Confederate soldiers, sailors, public servants, and loyal citizens.

CAMP MEMBERSHIP

Is available to all male (12 years or older) descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate military. Direct or collateral kinship to a qualifying veteran or civil servant must be documented for full membership. We will help with genealogical assistance for documentation. For those who have not yet proven their kinship or just have an active interest in what we are doing, we offer camp membership through our auxiliary, The Knights and Ladies of the Golden Circle.

WE CARE! PLEASE CALL JOHN OR MIKE AND KEEP US NEWS-INFORMED ... if you or a family member is ill, has an emergency, health or family issue, a family death, or needs assistance. Adjutant John McKee, 618-491-9472 Chaplain Mike Biekert, 618-972-8190

Lest We Forget

KEVIN DUFFY
January 6, 1940-October 15, 2010

PAT DORAN
May 31, 1939-September 7, 2011

BRETT WARNER
September 29, 1960-March 21, 2012

JAMES BENEDICT
July 18, 1947-October 27, 2012

RON DORAN
July 14, 1940-March 24, 2015

BILL BEASLEY
December 4, 1942-April 17, 2015

C. F. MARLEY
April 9, 1921-February 17, 2016

JOE LOPER
June 6, 1941-March 18, 2016

VERNON DeSELMS
October 9, 1941-August 14, 201



GORDON HAYES
September 7, 1938-July 4, 2023

HARRIS YOUNG
November 9, 1924-September 29, 2017

RONNIE OTTINGER
August 3, 1951-November 8, 2018

SAM BOOTH
December 28, 1942-February 24, 2019

BOB HARDY
July 18, 1928-June 15, 2019

GREG KRIEG
October 2, 1946-September 11, 2020

WELLINGTON "HAM" LEMMER
February 17, 1947-February 17, 2021

MARCUS PATTON "PAT" BOOTH
November 1, 1941-February 5, 2022

JOHN BOSTON MASSEY
August 6, 1947-December 1, 2022

JIM CONN
October 4, 1953-March 17, 2023

FROM THE COMMANDER

ATTENTION TO ORDERS: Greetings to the loyal and faithful members of the Lt. George E. Dixon SCV camp. We are praying that all is well with each member and his family. I would like to ask each member to be in mindful prayer for the compatriots that are not doing well. We remember Gale Red and ask that all find it in their quiet times before our maker to ask for His divine mercy and comfort in his ongoing health concerns. All know too well the contribution that Gale has rendered to the memory and the cause of the SCV. Prayers go out for Mrs. Jim Luma as she has encountered health concerns. Compatriot JC Gideon in the loss of his beloved wife shan't be forgotten by the membership. We held a very unusual meeting last month owing to the storms that happened that night. The attendance was very light owing to the weather. Hoping that all attend this month's muster. There was an interesting discussion about the camp's offer to attend the Pilot Knob re-enactment this September. It was discussed by those present and was agreed that it might be a weekend trip that all might attend. Steve Wilson will report on future information and Bob Herr stated that his unit is thinking of going. It would be an experience that we could all share. Come prepared to express any and all ideas that you think are viable options for our camp to undertake. Until the next muster. GOD Bless

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CAMP DIXON MEETING MINUTES

The members and friends of the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp # 1962, S.C.V., conducted their monthly muster at 6:30 p.m. on 18 April 2024, at the Shiloh Assembly of God Church, Shiloh IL; this being the 4th Muster of the year.

CALL TO ORDER: Cmdr Stanton called the meeting to order.

WELCOME: Cmdr Stanton welcomed the Camp's members, family, and friends.

INVOCATION: Chaplain Mike Biekert.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND SALUTE TO CONFEDERATE FLAG: Cmdr John Stanton.

ROLL CALL: 7



GROUP PHOTO

(L-R)

Back row: Phil Tate, John Stanton, Jim Luma

Front row: Steve Wilson, Bob Herr, Mike Biekert, Janice Beasley

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: Presented in the March 2024 Edition of The Blue Light News.

FINANCIAL REPORT: None.

REPORTS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Every person at the meeting is highly interested in going to the Pilot Knob Fort Davidson Re-Enactment Sept 28th & 29th including staying overnight in Farmington if need be. Bob Herr's cannon crew is probably going to be there, and Jim & Barb Lumma stayed in at Pilot Knob on their Honeymoon! So more to come on the Re-Enactment later.

We also discussed going to Springfield to the flag museum but really need to have twenty people attend and we will need to pick a date. Bob Herr is going to be at the Battle of Belmont with his cannon crew in October and could be a trip to take also. There was a little discussion about visiting the Civil War Museum at Jefferson Barracks.

We had a good meeting talking about places to visit. Steve Wilson will check on Hotels around Pilot Knob but looks like Farmington will be the choice. Baymont is \$76 a night in Farmington. Hotels right around Pilot Knob are all around \$150.

Steve Wilson provided refreshments. He brought a batch of my Cheesy Garlic Grits and another batch of Cheesy Garlic Grits with Bell Peppers and Smoked Sausage. There wasn't a grit left in them Crock pots!

PROGRAM: A DVD presentation on "Jefferson Davis - The Road to Sumter."

NEXT MEETING: 16 May 2024.

BENEDICTION: Chaplain Mike Biekert.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting ended around 8:30 PM.



Mobile Bay: Touchstone of American Military History

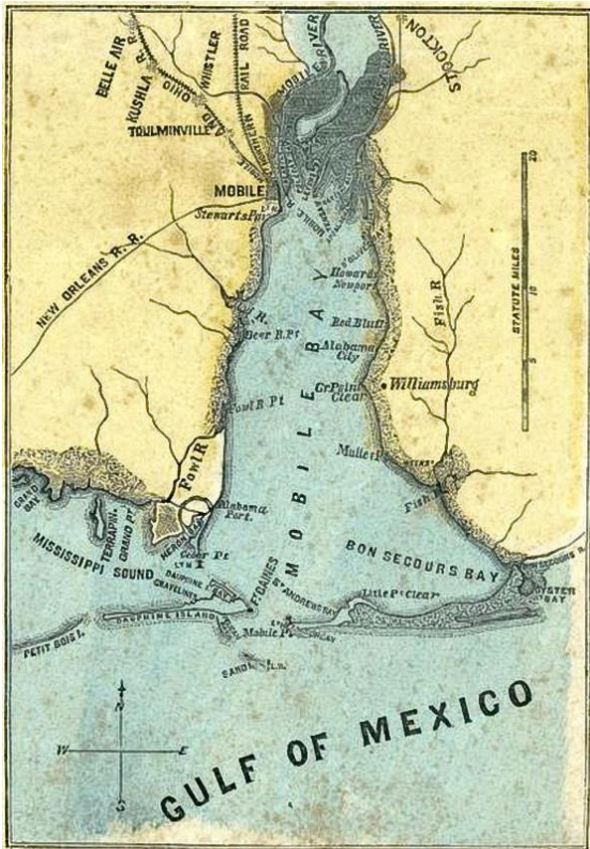


Battle of Mobile Bay

For most of the thousands of tourists who annually visit the scenic shores of Mobile Bay, Alabama, the region conjures up images of a rich maritime landscape and bountiful natural environment that serve as a backdrop for numerous recreational activities. Yet the bay area is also one of the nation's most historic regions, with a unique heritage spanning centuries of occupation in which it has figured prominently in multiple military conflicts. Its principal city, Mobile, was founded in 1702, and over its more than three centuries of development, three different European powers have claimed it, as well as the United States, and the Confederacy. During the

Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, and the Civil War, Mobile and the larger bay region assumed special significance as primary targets for competing armies and navies.

During the Revolutionary War, the Mobile Bay area lay in the middle of the British colony of West Florida. Owing to its strategic setting and its role as one of its primary ports, the city became a special target of Spanish forces in a whirlwind campaign that featured fighting on both sides of the bay and whose results—its conquest by Spain—would forever alter the region’s trajectory. A generation later, during the War of 1812 and the closely associated Creek War, the area again assumed special military significance. It was the site of the opening fights in the Creek War, including the infamous Battle of Fort Mims, and the theater for that conflict’s first campaign. The area also witnessed two pitched battles between American and British forces, both at a spot known as Mobile Point, which would become much better known to Americans across the nation in the 1860s for what happened there one hot August morning during the Civil War.



Campaign Chart of Mobile Bay - 1861

The Battle of Mobile Bay, fought on August 5, 1864, proved to be one of the Civil War’s largest naval battles. In it, Union admiral David Farragut—who may or may not have precisely said “Damn the Torpedoes”—forced his fleet past the guns of Fort Morgan, ending Mobile’s days as a rebel seaport. Days later, both Fort Morgan and its sister installation across the mouth of the bay, Fort Gaines, had fallen. Yet the city of Mobile, the fourth largest urban center in the Confederacy at the beginning of the war, still lay in Confederate hands.

Mobile would be the object of the combined-forces action known as the Campaign for Mobile in one of the war’s closing operations in the spring of 1865. The most substantial operations on land and water occurred along the Gulf Coast during the Civil War. The affair involved over 55,000 troops and more than forty warships. The sites associated with the Mobile Campaign are a revelation to many visitors to the region. Sieges of the Confederate positions at Spanish Fort and Fort Blakeley resulted in weeks of pitched fighting before the climactic charge of some 16,000 troops in a front stretching three miles in length that resulted in the capture of Fort Blakeley. This occurred just hours after Gen. Robert E. Lee surrendered his army at Appomattox. The fall of Mobile

occurred just a few days later. Mobile Bay, of course, has many more chapters to tell in its rich and diverse past. But its robust military heritage, often overlooked and awaiting discovery, may be among its most compelling. (Courtesy: blueandgrayeducation.org)



The Civil War Years of the Outlaw Jesse James

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YrBzDBGmfRI>



Antoinette Polk to the Rescue



Antoinette Polk

Her paternal great uncle was James K. Polk, the 11th President of the United States. The Episcopal Bishop of Louisiana and future Confederate Gen. Leonidas Polk was her father's brother. She was descended from William Penn, the founder of the state of Pennsylvania, and General "Mad" Anthony Wayne was also one of her uncles.

Antoinette Van Leer Polk was born in 1847. Her home was Ashwood Hall, located outside of Columbia, Tennessee. The mansion was built for Leonidas Polk in 1837, but in 1847 he sold it to Rebecca Van Leer, who married Leonidas' brother Andrew Jackson Polk. They were Antoinette's parents. Andrew spent \$35,000 on an expansion of the house, and in doing so made it one of the grandest mansions in all of Tennessee.

In April 1863, Antoinette was away from home visiting family and, upon her return to Ashwood, she was informed that Union forces of Wilder's Lightning Brigade were in transit and headed toward her father's house. Antoinette knew that elements of the Confederate cavalry were staying at Ashwood, and they had no knowledge of their impending capture by Wilder's men. She made a split-second decision and, even though she was miles from home, decided to personally warn the Ashwood soldiers. This would not be an easy task because multiple fences, hedgerows, walls, and barricades would have to be surmounted in order reach her destination. But for Miss Polk, this was not a problem.

As proof, someone with knowledge of her exploit later wrote: "There was no more superb equestrienne in the valley of Tennessee . . . she had a thoroughbred horse trained to her bidding leaping the fences like a reindeer in time to come out on the pike just in front of the [Yankee] troopers some four miles from home. They took after her, but her foaming steed was so fleet of foot that she got away from them in the twinkling of an eye and saved her friends from capture."

Confederate Gen. Nathan B. Forrest, while stationed in Columbia in the summer of 1863, heard of Antoinette's heroic effort and presented her in recognition with one of the battle flags he captured from Union Col. Abel Streight's command, which had surrendered to Forrest near Cedar Bluff, Alabama, on May 3, 1863.



Ashwood Hall

After the Civil War, Andrew J. Polk moved to Italy, and his daughter became the finest female fox hunter in all of Europe, winning several such contests in multiple countries. Antoinette married a French baron—Gen. Charles-Marie Charette, a commander of the Papal Zouaves. Ashwood burned in 1874, and Antoinette died in 1919 in Brittany, France. (Courtesy: blueandgrayeducation.org)



***Confederate Monument
Chatham, Virginia***

**“In memory of Co I, 53rd VA Regiment
Armistead’s Brigade
Pickett’s Division and Their Comrades in arms of
Pittsylvania Co.”**

The military unit carved into this monument, the 53rd Virginia, CSA, was part of the most famous “assault” in American military history: Pickett’s Charge. On the day of that attack, at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, the 53rd Virginia was posted in the middle of the five regiments of Confederate General Armistead’s Brigade. The 53rd was led by Col. William R. Aylett, who was the great-grandson of famous American patriot Patrick Henry. Of the 435 members of the 53rd Virginia who saw action in that charge on July 3, 1863, more than 30 percent were either killed or wounded.



MAY 5

**HAPPY 64th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
TO
COMPATRIOT JIM & LADY BARB LUMMA
(Of Jerseyville IL)**

**Only the best of wishes for you on this special day. Hope you will have happier & healthy years!
(The camp will send a congrats card.)**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE

13 Flag Day
20 6:30 CAMP MEETING
 16 Father's Day
 19 Juneteenth
 20 Summer Begins
 24 St. John's Day

JULY

1 Battle of Gettysburg
 4 Independence Day
 14 Bastille Day
18 6:30 CAMP MEETING
 20 Moon Landing, 1969
 28 World War I

AUGUST

4 Coast Guard Birthday
 8 International Cat Day
 16 Bennington Battle Day
15 6:30 CAMP MEETING
 31 South Carolina Day
 26 Woman's Right to Vote Day



MAY BIRTHDAYS

1	J.C. Gideon	Belleville, IL
2	Nathan Ziebold	Twin Oaks, MO
5	Doug Lawrence	Keyesport, IL
7	John Kruse	East Setauket, NY
10	Chris Ziebold	Chesterfield, MO
17	Don Young	Advance, MO
25	Charles Lee	Mascoutah, IL
26	John McKee	Shiloh, IL



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