

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

THE DIXON BLUE LIGHT NEWS



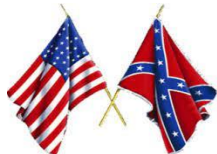
Lt. George E. Dixon Camp #1962
Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV)

www.scvcamp1962.org

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MAY 2025

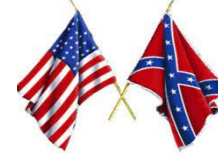


PROGRAM INFO FOR NEXT MTG, 15 MAY

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



The CSS Alabama was a Confederate raider that prowled the oceans for two years during the Civil War, capturing or sinking 65 Union vessels before meeting its end in a dramatic naval duel off the coast of France.

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. Until the next muster. GOD Bless



In an ironic twist, an anti-secessionist was placed on a 1861 \$10 CSA note. John E. Ward was chosen due to being a former mayor of Savannah, not for any direct support of the Confederacy.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE

Jefferson Davis	2
Confederate White House.....	3
Macon's Power House.....	4
Anniversaries.....	6
Calendar of Events ~ Birthdays ~ Camp Dixon Staff.....	7

How Did Jefferson Davis Die?



Born in Kentucky in 1808, Jefferson Davis was the one and only president of the Confederate States of America. Much has been written about his early life, his service to the United States, his time as CSA President, and his struggles following a two-year incarceration as a prisoner at Fortress Monroe, Virginia, after the Civil War. But what about his death? Where, and how, did this famous personality of the 19th century pass away?

At the age of 81, Jefferson Davis died in New Orleans at 12:45 a.m. on Friday, December 6, 1889. Just the previous month—over his wife Varina's objection—Davis had traveled to Briarfield, his former home, located south of Vicksburg, Mississippi, and still part of his family's land holdings. During the journey, he was caught in cold, rainy weather and became ill—with bronchitis.

By November 12, still unwell, he returned to New Orleans, where Varina met him. He was taken to the home of Charles Fenner, a chief justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court. There, at what is now called the Payne-Strachen House at 1134 First Street, Davis would spend his final weeks. He died of pneumonia. His last words, uttered on December 5, were: "Pray excuse me, I cannot take it," referring to medicine offered by his wife.

The mortal body of Jefferson Davis lay in state at the New Orleans City Hall until December 11. During this time, both U.S. and Confederate flags were draped from the walls. Varina placed the sword Davis had carried during the Black Hawk War on the stand that held his casket.

The New York Times, dated December 8, 1889, wrote: "A careful tally of the visitors shows that about 40,000 persons, mostly women and children, viewed the remains today. This crowd included, in solemn and respectful attendance, all conditions of Whites, Blacks, ex-Confederates, ex-Federals, and even Indians and Chinamen." Most accounts estimate that 70,000 people viewed his body while it was at City Hall. On December 11, he was buried at Metairie Cemetery in New Orleans. *The Evening News* of Sydney, Australia, stated that his funeral "was conducted with great ceremony and was witnessed by clearly 100,000 spectators and the grandest ever seen in the South. ... The pallbearers were eight governors of Southern States."

In 1893 his wife had his remains moved to Richmond, Virginia and was reinterred in Richmond's Hollywood Cemetery.



Final Resting Place for Jefferson Davis



The White House of the Confederacy



Jefferson Davis House, Richmond, Virginia, Executive Mansion C.S.A.

The White House of the Confederacy is a historic house located in the Court End neighborhood of Richmond, Virginia. Built in 1818, it was the main executive residence of the sole President of the Confederate States of America, Jefferson Davis, from August 1861 until April 1865. It was viewed as the Confederate States counterpart to the White House in Washington, D.C. It currently sits on the campus of Virginia Commonwealth University. ... The Museum of the Confederacy merged with the American Civil War Center. The merged entity is now the American Civil War Museum. The house museum is known as the White House of the Confederacy. It was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1960.

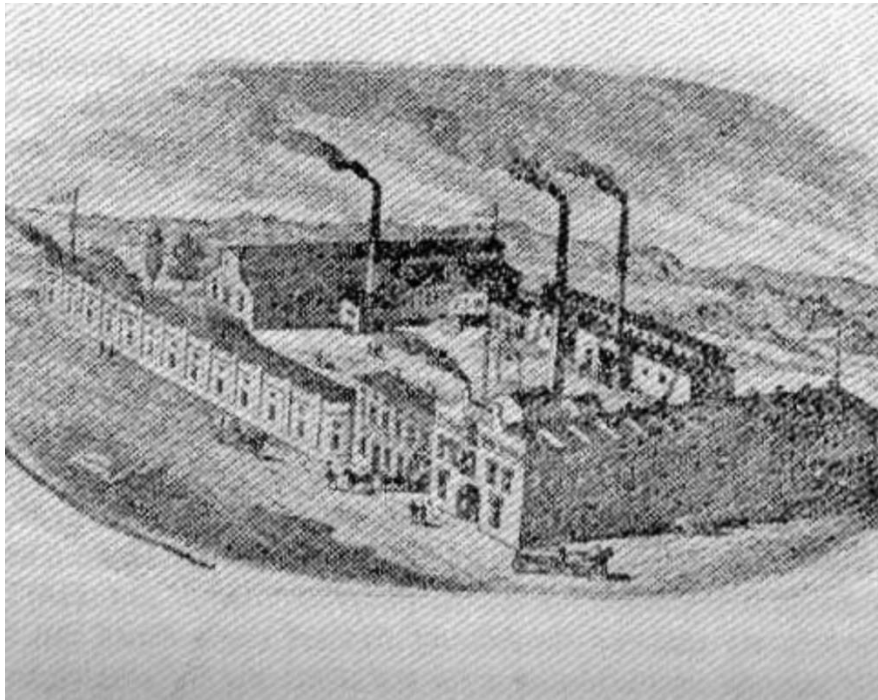
Just prior to the Civil War, Lewis Dabney Crenshaw purchased the house and added a third floor. He sold the home to the City of Richmond, which in turn rented it to the Confederate government as its Executive Mansion. Jefferson Davis, his wife Varina, and their children moved into the house in August 1861, and lived there for the remainder of the war. ... President Davis maintained an at-home office on the second floor of the White House. ... President Davis' personal secretary, Col. Burton Harrison, also lived in the house.

The house was abandoned during the evacuation of Richmond on April 2, 1865. Within twelve hours, soldiers from Maj. Gen. Godfrey Weitzel's XVIII Corps seized the former Confederate White House intact. President Abraham Lincoln, who was in nearby City Point (now Hopewell, Virginia), traveled up the James River to tour the captured city, and visited Davis' former residence for about three hours—although the president only toured the first floor, feeling it would be improper to visit the more private second floor of another man's home. Adm. David Dixon Porter accompanied Lincoln during the visit to the former Confederate executive mansion. They held a number of meetings with local officials in the White House. Among them was Confederate Brig. Gen. Joseph Reid Anderson, who owned the Tredegar Iron Works.

During Reconstruction, the White House of the Confederacy served as the headquarters for Military District Number One (Virginia) and was occasionally used as the residence of the commanding officer of the Department of Virginia.



Macon's Hidden Power: The Arsenal That Fueled the Southern War Machine



Postwar Findlay Iron Works including buildings added by Macon Arsenal

Macon, Georgia, was exactly what the newly formed Confederate nation desperately needed. The city was a major industrial hub at the center of a vast transportation network. Five companies produced machinery, and 83 other factories operated within its limits.

Macon's population consisted of both Northerners and Southerners, yet it remained loyal to the Confederate cause. Surrounding Bibb County contributed 23 companies to the army.

The new Confederate government discovered Macon's strategic advantages only by accident in April and May of 1862, when the city suddenly became critical to the South's war effort. Hospitals were hastily established to care for hundreds of wounded Confederate soldiers, and a prison for federal officers was set up, eventually holding hundreds of men.

Capt. Richard Matthaei Cuyler arrived in Macon at nearly the same moment, bringing with him ordnance property and workers of Savannah as federal forces threatened to capture the city. Cuyler had an extensive career in ordnance, beginning with his distinguished service in the United States Navy from 1839 to 1860. He served in the War with Mexico and participated in the California coastal survey. His father, Richard Randolph Cuyler, was president of the Central Georgia Railroad.

In Macon, Cuyler leased the foundry of Robert Findlay & Sons, which was the largest manufacturing complex in the Deep South. He acquired additional machinery from Huntsville, New Orleans, Pensacola, and Knoxville before those cities fell to advancing Union armies. More equipment arrived from England and Massachusetts. For what became the Macon Arsenal, Cuyler secured iron from Alabama, scrap metal from Mississippi, charcoal, copper, and coal from Tennessee, as well as wood and firebrick from South Georgia. Iron was also imported from Great Britain, while bronze was repurposed from church bells. A traveling agent procured railroad cars, coal, iron, leather, copper, and tin.

After significantly expanding the arsenal—eventually building housing and renting a farm for his workers—Cuyler made full use of Macon's resources. He leased the city's 12 largest warehouses and secured contracts for

arms and munitions. He also established a harness shop, while Griswold's cotton gin factory was converted to produce revolvers.

Eventually promoted to colonel, Cuyler oversaw Macon's army, arsenal, armory, ordnance laboratory, medical laboratory, and civilian contractors. He employed Black and white men, women, and children, both enslaved and free. Together, they produced enough ammunition, hats, haversacks, matches, pants, pistols, rifles, shoes, and shot to supply an entire army throughout the war.

The arsenal successfully manufactured complete artillery batteries, including wagons and traveling forges. Macon's most famous contributions to the war effort were its 12-pounder bronze Napoleon cannons and its 10- to 30-pounder iron Parrott rifled artillery.

On April 18, 1865, Cuyler rode out to meet the approaching Union cavalry under Gen. James Wilson and informed them that a nationwide armistice had been declared—the war was over. In an ironic twist, the federal troopers dismantled the foundry's flagpole from Cuyler's Macon Arsenal and repurposed it to fly the United States flag at Wilson's headquarters.



Macon Arsenal cannon captured at Battle of Chattanooga



After Stonewall Jackson died in 1863, his wife, Anna Jackson, devoted the rest of her long life preserving his legacy, helping to lift him to near-mythic status.

Learn more by clicking on the video link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3sx6GFYCxqE>



MAY 5

**HAPPY 65th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
TO
COMPATRIOT JIM & LADY BARB LUMMA
(Of Jerseyville IL)**

Only best wishes to you on this special day. Hope you will have happier & healthier years!
(The camp will send a congrats card.)



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE

13 Flag Day
16 Father's Day
19 **6:30 CAMP MEETING**
19 Juneteenth
20 Summer Solstice
23 St. John's Eve
24 John the Baptist Day

JULY

1 Battle of Gettysburg
4 Independence Day
10 Full Moon y
14 Bastille Day
17 **6:30 CAMP MEETING**
20 Moon Landing, 1969
28 World War I

AUGUST

4 Coast Guard Birthday
9 Full Moon
12 Perseid Meteor Shower
16 Bennington Battle Day
21 **6:30 CAMP MEETING**
24 Ukraine Independence Day
31 South Carolina 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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