

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](http://www.scvcamp1962.org)

Lady Sharon Red, Cell 618-622-8949



AUGUST 2018

**COME CELEBRATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND CAMP COMARADERIE AT OUR NEXT GET-TOGETHER  
CAMP DIXON MEETING**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2018**

**6:30 P. M.**

**Belle-Clair Fairgrounds**

## FROM THE COMMANDER

Salutations from the commander. Greetings to all members of the SCV Lt. George E. Dixon Camp.

A special cheer for our parade float at the Smithton event. The camp was respectfully represented but we can always use more foot soldiers at these events. Remember, we have the honor of presenting a positive face in these communities concerning the SCV, but more importantly, the memory of our ancestors. The south needs all her sons and daughters in support of this cause.

Please consider joining us at the Freeburg IL parade on the 18th of August as we once again muster for our heritage.

At our previous meeting, it was voted on to have a joint event with the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War at Bob Eversgerde's Fort in Germantown IL. As a member of both camps, I proposed this same idea to our Union counterparts, and they all agreed to this plan. I contacted Bob and he has graciously offered his fort for this meeting on October 6, a Saturday. The union meeting will begin at 10:00 and ours will follow at about 11:15 or so. Following our meeting, we will have time to socialize with both camps, tour Bob's fort and photos. Afterwards, we plan to have lunch in Germantown IL. I hope all members can attend this event. Bob is a friend who I used to re-enact with for many years and what he has built by himself is incredible. You will not be disappointed.

Also, at our last meeting, it was discussed that we will have a fall weekend trip to Ft. Donelson, on the third weekend of October. We will need to discuss this more at length this month.

This past month my family and I traveled to Gettysburg PA to tour this site. I can only tell you that it was a moving experience for us, especially the Virginia monument to her sons at Gettysburg. All my life I have desired to see in person this magnificent memorial of General Lee astride Traveler. In reality, all Civil War battle sites are sacred, but for the American conscience this battlefield has captured the imagination of many.

At the last meeting, I asked the camp members to consider voting for my g-daughter, Maria, in the Fox 97.1 Patriotic Photo Contest. I am proud to announce that Maria won the contest with her name being announced on her eleventh birthday. She was captured posing as Molly Pitcher with a revolutionary war cannon. Thanks to each of you for considering Maria and your votes.

Thank you and may God bless.

Confederately,

*John Stanton*

## Annual Dues

(August 1, 2018 - July 31, 2019)

### OVERDUE

**SCV Members \$50**

(incl \$30 for National and  
\$20 for the Camp)

**Life Members \$20**

(for the Camp)

**Knights & Ladies \$20**

(for the Camp)

**Please make check**

**payable to:**

**Lt. George E. Dixon Camp #1962**

**Bring payment to meeting,**

**or mail to:**

**Adjutant Gale Red**

**5 Hunters Pt**

**O'Fallon IL 62269-3133**

**If not renewing, call Gale,**

**Cell 618-622-8949.**

**FREE - NEW - \$150 value**

**(3) Whirlpool**

**Refrigerator Ice &**

**Water Filters**

**#4396508**

**See Gale or Sharon Red**

**on Aug. 14**

**or contact them at:**

**Cell 618-622-8949**

**Cell 618-979-7853**

## \*\*\* NEXT CAMP DIXON MEETING \*\*\*

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2018 ~ 6:30 p.m.**

**Belle-Clair Fairgrounds Exposition Center**

**200 South Belt East**

**Belleville IL**

**Parking/Entrance on East Side of Building**

**PROGRAM:**

**Kicklighter Ancestry**

**PRESENTER:**

**2nd Lt Commander Johnny Kicklighter**

**REFRESHMENTS:**

**Asst Adjutant John & Lady Jane McKee**

*Questions? Call Gale Red, Cell 618-622-8949*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
From the Commander	1
Minutes: Camp Dixon Meeting, July 10	2-3
Camp Dixon in Smithton Homecoming Parade, July 28	4-7
Impersonation of Robert E. Lee by Compatriot Bobby Samuel	8
News from Around the Camp	9
Calendar of Events ~ August Birthdays ~ Camp Leadership	10

## **CAMP DIXON MEETING MINUTES ~ JULY 10, 2018 Muster**

The members and friends of the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp #1962, SCV, conducted their monthly muster at 6:33 p.m. on July 10, 2018 at the Belle-Clair Exposition Center, 200 South Belt East, Belleville IL, this being the 7<sup>th</sup> Muster of the year for 2018.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Adjutant Gale Red.

**INVOCATION:** Chaplain Mike Biekert.

**PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS:** Adjutant Gale Red. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. flag and Salute to the Confederate flag.

**WELCOME:** Adjutant Red

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS & GUESTS:** Commander John Stanton greeted Tim Mackey (newest member) and Jane Novara (guest).

**ROLL CALL (20):** Jeff Barnes, Janice Beasley, Mike Biekert, Eric Funkhouser, J. C. Gideon, Walter Hall, Bob Herr, Johnny Kicklighter, Tim Mackey, John & Jane McKee, Andy & Jane Novara, Justin Ottolini, Gale & Sharon Red, Dale Rice, Dave Schmitt, John Stanton, and Phil Tate.

### **PROCEDURAL BUSINESS**

**ACCEPTANCE OF JUNE 12 MEETING MINUTES (Adjutant Red):** Motion to accept by Andy Novara, seconded by John McKee. Minutes accepted by a show-of-hands vote. Motion carried. Minutes accepted.

**FINANCIAL REPORT (Adjutant Red):** Current balance was reported. Received a number of dues checks and appreciate them. Two-thirds of the camp have not paid. Deposits not included in this total but will be this week. Motion to accept by John McKee, seconded by Phil Tate. Report accepted by a show-of-hands vote. Motion carried. Financial report accepted.

### **COMMUNICATIONS (Adjutant Red)**

**JOINT CAMP MEETING (ELECTIONS AND GET-TOGETHER) OF THE IL DIVISION.** Planned for first Saturday (6<sup>th</sup>) of October in Chatham (just short of Springfield IL). Would like more camp members to go and meet other people that are members of the SCV.

**RADIO REPORTED CONFEDERATE MONUMENT IN ALTON (2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Commander Kicklighter).** The radio announcer said it's good to know there is a Confederate Monument in Alton. What's your opinion on this, Gale?

**(Adjutant Red)** My take is a liberal activist was trying to create trouble. VA is still guarding the monument. This is the main reason I haven't looked for the press to cover our activity – need to prevent trouble.

**WELCOME BACK, JEFF BARNES (Adjutant Red).** Jeff returned after a month in Alaska on a subsistence mission. Too bad beer was a staple.

### **OLD BUSINESS/REPORTS FROM THE FIELD**

**CAMP WEBSITE UPDATE (2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Commander Johnny Kicklighter).** Big change in the server – migrated to A2 hosting. They fixed it in 5 minutes. Chaplain core newsletter is also listed. Music is still being tweaked. Please view our website.

**(Adjutant Red)** Would like you to put a picture of your ancestor on the Roll Call of Honor. I will send out an email follow-up on this for you to send me your ancestor info/picture/bio/particular battle/grave photo.

**SMITHTON PARADE, SATURDAY, JULY 28 (Adjutant Red).** Line up at 4:00, step-off at 5:00. John Kicklighter will graciously provide his truck and trailer.

**FREEBURG PARADE, SATURDAY, AUGUST 18 (Adjutant Red).** Line up at 4:00, step-off at 5:00. John Kicklighter will again graciously provide his truck and trailer.

**ANNUAL DUES (AUGUST 1, 2018 – JULY 31, 2019) (Adjutant Red).** 30% of the membership have paid (73 people in the camp) Thank you. Please pay if you haven't yet. Make check payable to "Lt George E. Dixon Camp #1962."

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**97.1 JUNIOR PATRIOTIC PHOTO CONTEST (Commander Stanton).** My granddaughter, Marie Stanton, is an entry in this contest, in periodic dress and posed with a revolutionary war cannon. Please vote for her at the web site. Cutoff is July 15. Each vote is appreciated. Thank you.

**COMMANDER'S BLUE/GRAY BARBEQUE, MID OR END OF SEPTEMBER (Commander Stanton).** You are invited to attend a BBQ at my home (plus the Hecker camp members). Please mark your calendars for this time frame. More details to follow.

**TRIP TO BOB EVERSGERDE FORT, GERMANTOWN IL (Commander Stanton).** I will meet with the SUV camp to join us for a get-together. (An indoor toilet has been installed for the ladies.) Date/time forthcoming.

## CAMP DIXON MEETING MINUTES ~ JULY 10, 2018 Muster (cont'd)

**LEE-JACKSON BALL 2018 (Commander Stanton).** What's the status?

**(Adjutant Red)** Sharon scheduled an appt with Ellie Miller of Bellecourt on July 13. Mary Biekert will call us tomorrow to meet us there. More info to follow.



**MEETING GROUP PHOTO**

(L-R) Gale Red, John McKee, Phil Tate, J. C. Gideon, Andy & Jane Novara, Mike Biekert, Johnny Kicklighter, Janice Beasley, Dale Rice, Justin Ottolini, Jane McKee, Tim Mackey, Eric Funkhouser, John Stanton, Jeff Barnes, Bob Herr and David Schmitt

*Photographer: Sharon Red*

**PRESENTATION ON JOHN HARRISON SURRETT, JR. by Adjutant Gale Red.** Highlights of his powerpoint briefing follow:

John Surratt was born in Prince Georges County on April 13, 1844. His family were mainly farmers (ordinary people). The whole family were southern sympathizers.

In 1861, when John was 17, his family was solidly for the South. His sister was deeply involved in Confederate activities. His brother was in the Confederate Army in Texas. John was a Confederate spy/courier, friend of John Wilkes Booth, and co-conspirator to kidnapping President Lincoln.

In 1865, John was a Confederate spy – with Booth – to kidnap the President and change the fortunes of war. Thousands were in OW camps/prisons east of the Mississippi.

On February 19, 1862, the Ontara returned to the Navy Yard after a trip to Egypt and brought back John. In shackles, John was the most wanted man in the world and last of the conspirators to be captured and brought to trial. He remained in prison for three months while the court was waiting to decide since the jurors did not reach a verdict to link him to the assassination. Second trial freed him and he went down to South America for seven months. John came back to the U. S. as a parochial school teacher. (*Why in the U. S. did we have parochial schools? Answer is U. S. Government wouldn't allow Catholic children to be educated in public schools.*)

John went on a speaking tour as a Papal Guard around the country escaping his part in the kidnapping, not in the assassination. His first night was well received. The second night he was charged with a bogus amount of not paying a license fee. His third night revealed it was not right for him to make money on his adventurous escapades to England, France, Spain, Italy, and Egypt before being captured and returned for trial. He was released.

John ended up being a bookkeeper for a shipping company. He married a woman who was the second cousin to Francis Scott Key. He lived a fairly prosperous life – lived to be 70 years old. Contracted pneumonia and died in Boltman.

**REFRESHMENTS** were provided by Compatriot J. C. Gideon.

**BENEDICTION** was given by Chaplain Biekert.

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:30 p.m.**

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, August 14, 2018, 6:30 p.m. at the Belle-Clair Fairgrounds Exposition Center. **REFRESHMENTS** by Compatriot John & Lady Jane McKee. **PROGRAM** on the Kicklighter Ancestry by 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Commander Kicklighter.



Respectfully submitted,

*Gale F. Red*  
Adjutant



# Camp Dixon in Homecoming Parade, Smithton IL

(Saturday, July 28, 2018) Absolutely beautiful weather – a mild 81 degrees and low humidity – perfect for wool uniforms and long dresses. The Camp Dixon attendees who participated in the annual Smithton Homecoming Parade were blessed with a very comfortable temperature, for a change. We thank them for their loyal support to the camp and show of their Confederate colors. **Attendees included Commander John Stanton, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Commander Johnny Kicklighter, Adjutant Gale Red, Asst Adjutant John & Lady Jane McKee, Chaplain Mike, Mrs. Mary & daughter Caroline Biekert, and Compatriots Matt King, Tim Mackey (*first-time presence*), and Ronnie Lakin.** Much appreciation and thanks also go to: Adjutant Red for loaning his personal flags, muskets/ammunition, and decorations, John Kicklighter for use of his truck/float (and his father, Johnny, the driver), and Asst Adjutant John McKee for his perfect photos.



The camp received a very warm welcome as they did in past years. It's always a pleasure to march in this parade. We appreciate the Smithton community's warm hospitality.



Chaplain Mike and Adjutant Gale march and lead off Camp Dixon in the parade.



Compatriot Tim Mackey marches alongside camp float.

Photographer: John McKee





**(L-R) Gale Red, Johnny Kicklighter (truck driver pulling the float), John Stanton, and Ron Lakin.**



**Musket fire is always the highlight of the parade!  
Behind the Fire Power are John Stanton, Ron Lakin, and Matt King.**





**Tim Mackey (first time at a homecoming parade) marches along the float.**



**(L-R) Mike Biekert (with his Chaplain flag),  
Matt King, Tim Mackey, John Stanton, and Ron Lakin**





(Above) Representing Camp Dixon are: Johnny Kicklighter, Ron Lakin, Gale Red, John Stanton, Tim Mackey, Matt King, Jane McKee, Mary and Caroline Biekert, and Mike Biekert (under the chaplain flag).



Mike Biekert

(Left)  
Mike Biekert  
and  
Gale Red



Steve Wilson is showing off his vintage red convertible next to Camp Dixon float: (L-R) Mike Biekert, Johnny Kicklighter, Mary Wilson, Jane McKee, Matt King, Tim Mackey, Ron Lakin, John Stanton, and Gale Red.



**IMPERSONATION PRESENTATION OF ROBERT E. LEE  
BY  
COMPATRIOT BOBBY SAMUEL**



Bobby Samuel (as Robert E. Lee) poses  
with some students at the Unity Christian School

**(Thursday, April 19, 2018, Energy IL)** Compatriot Bobby Samuel, member of Camp Dixon, had the privilege to speak to about 100 students in the gymnasium at Unity Christian School in Energy, Il. They were a polite and attentive student body as he impersonated Robert E. Lee. After the presentation, they asked thoughtful questions. The principal and teachers were thankful he came and spoke. He was excited because this was his second time to speak at the school.



# NEWS FROM AROUND THE CAMP



## GETTYSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK, PENNSYLVANIA

For 100 years, the National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA), with members and supporters, has honored the people who shaped our nation's history and protected the places where that history was made. Preventing the construction of a sprawling casino near this park is one of their most significant successes to date.

### COMMANDER JOHN STANTON AND COMPATRIOT JUSTIN OTTOLINI VISITED GETTYSBURG, JULY 13-15, 2018

Hope they had a great first time visiting the historic battlefield and will share their experiences with us.



### COMPATRIOT DAVID ASH FROM WEST UNION IL

#### INTERESTING RELATIONSHIP – IT'S A SMALL WORLD

Reference July's Blue Light article on *Where the Fourth Means Little Vicksburg*, David said Gordon Cotton (the local historian and director of the Old Courthouse Museum in Vicksburg, Miss., who said "there was nothing for us to celebrate for a long, long time") is his cousin. NOTE: David and his wife, Diane, are still looking to move to Mississippi this year.



AUGUST 16, 2018

### COMPATRIOT & MRS. MATT KING

#### CONGRATULATIONS ON THEIR 7<sup>th</sup> WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

We are very blessed to have this couple in our camp and hope they have a blessed anniversary! Many more happy and healthy ones to Matt and Andrea (Andi)! *(The camp will send a greeting card.)*



### COMPATRIOT RONNIE OTTINGER FROM NEWPORT TN

#### SINCEREST OF HEALING WISHES TO YOU

Ronnie is suffering from Stage 5 kidney failure, and we pray the Good Lord blesses him with many healing miracles and the joy of quality of life. He said he is grateful to have belonged to "this outstanding organization but cannot afford to renew my membership due to increased medical expenses." Please keep him on your prayer list for a miracle of life. *(The camp sent a prayer card.)*

# CAMP CALENDAR OF EVENTS



## AUGUST

- 14 6:30 **CAMP MEETING**
- 18 5:00 **FREEBURG HOMECOMING PARADE**

## SEPTEMBER

- 2 **LABOR DAY (HOLIDAY)**
- 8 **GRANDPARENTS' DAY**
- 11 **6:30 CAMP MEETING**
- 23 **FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN**
- Mid-End of Mo. **Blue/Gray BBQ**  
(Cmdr Stanton's Home, Godfrey)

## OCTOBER

- 6 10:00/11:15 **Joint Blue/Gray Camp Mtg**  
(Bob Eversgerde's Fort, Germantown)
- 14 **COLUMBUS DAY (HOLIDAY)**
- 20-21 **Weekend Trip to Fort Donelson**
- 31 **HALLOWEEN**



## AUGUST

- 3 **RONNIE OTTINGER (Newport TN)**
- 6 **JOHN MASSEY (Harvest AL)**
- 7 **DAVE SCHMITT (O'Fallon IL)**
- 19 **JASON ZIEBOLD (Savage MN)**
- 23 **LADY CHRISTINE KICKLIGHTER (Belleville IL)**
- 28 **MARK MORGAN (Manchester MO)**
- 31 **BOB HERR (Mt. Vernon IL)**

### CAMP DIXON LEADERSHIP

Commander	John Douglas Stanton	618-610-6464
1 <sup>st</sup> Lt Commander	VACANT	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt Commander	John Wayne Kicklighter	618-257-9079
Adjutant	Gale Franklin Red	Cell 618-622-8949
Asst Adjutant	John Mitchell McKee	618-416-5072
Chaplain	Walter Michael Biekert	618-972-8190
Sgt of Arms	David Francis Schmitt	Cell 618-334-6148
Program Chairman	Gale Franklin Red	Cell 618-622-8949
Historian	VACANT	
Door Greeter	VACANT	
Quartermaster	VACANT	