

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: Lady Sharon Red, Cell 618-622-8949

NOVEMBER 2018

**COME AND LET'S MEET BACK AT OUR REGULAR GATHERING SITE
FOR THE CAMP DIXON MEETING
at the Belle-Clair Fairgrounds
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2018
6:30 P. M.**

**ELECTION DAY
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6**



**REMEMBER VETERANS DAY
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11**

**GIVE THANKS
THANKSGIVING DAY
NOVEMBER 22**



FROM THE COMMANDER

Attention to Orders. Greetings, fellow SCV loyal camp members. Recently, I read an article from around the nation with complaints about the use of government funds by the Veterans Administration (V.A.) to protect gravesites and monuments of Confederate burial sites which are under the administration of the V.A. The article was explicit in its unbelief that funds were being utilized as such and that they could be spent elsewhere. I, too, agree with this so-called waste of money, but from a much different angle. I believe that it is indeed a shame that this money is being spent only in the sense that it must be done to protect America's heritage. The V. A. has acted properly to protect the graves of the Southern soldiers in the wake of such defilement. It is hard to imagine the mob violence destroying these memorials and graves as uniformed police officers stand by and watch as lame spectators. Any and all acts of desecration of any and all burial sites and monuments are not only acts of extreme hatred but acts which seek to destroy the shared history of all individuals on the planet. When a Jewish cemetery is vandalized and defiled with offensive graffiti, it is an act against each and everyone of us. When the graves of African-Americans are desecrated in any fashion, it is an attempt to obliterate the history of our fellow citizens. I, repeat, that any act against the sacred burial of any ancestor or monument from our shared experiences as Americans is an extreme act of hate against a deceased person and their memory as well as a vulgar exercise of an ideology which seeks to rob us all of our past. Can one hardly imagine if the inhabitants of the city of Rome deciding that since their ancestors had committed such acts of which they now disavow, such as the possession of slaves, that all monuments and traces of their very past were deserving of defilement and destruction? The word would cry out in utter horror against such insanity. In our world today, Muslim extremists have carried out such destruction of any ancient site that they deem offensive to their religious zeal. Throughout world history, conquerors have tried to erase from history any and all traces of their fallen enemy. Many such sites have been erased from existence, but fortunately many have escaped such acts of barbarism. This brings me back to the issue of the Confederate soldier and his sacred final resting place. With the same vigor and strength, we, too, must stand against such acts of desecration of their graves and memorials. It is not only our shared history as members of the SCV, but that as well of each and every citizen to preserve the sacred trust of a burial site. To permit each and every family the dignity of a proper burial to be respected by each and all for past generations and those of future generations. The judgment of the dead is with the Lord, and not with anyone else. God Bless.

*Confederately,
John Stanton*

***** NEXT CAMP DIXON MEETING ***
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2018 ~ 6:30 p.m.**

**Belle-Clair Fairgrounds Exposition Center
200 South Belt East, Belleville IL
Parking/Entrance on East Side of Building**

**PRESENTER: 2nd Lt Commander Tim Mackey
PROGRAM: His Confederate Ancestor
REFRESHMENTS: Asst Adjutant John & Lady Jane McKee**

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

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CAMP DIXON MEETING MINUTES ~ OCTOBER 6, 2018 Muster

The members and friends of the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp # 1962, S.C.V., conducted their monthly Muster at 10:45 on October 6, 2018 at Bob Eversgerde's Civil War Fort, Bartelso, Illinois; this being the 10th Muster of the year 2018.

CALL TO ORDER: Commander John Stanton called the meeting to order.



Conducting the Camp Meeting
Matt King, John Stanton & Johnny Kicklighter



Dwight & Nona Moore, Bob Herr, Walter Hall,
J. C. Gideon, Andi King, Jordyn Renfrow,
Johnny Kicklighter, John Stanton, and Matt King

COMMANDER'S WELCOME: Commander John Stanton welcomed the Camp's members and friends.

INVOCATION: Compatriot Johnny Kicklighter.

PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS: The American Flag was properly displayed and stationary. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States and the salute to the Confederate Flag.

SWEARING In: None.

ROLL CALL: Those present included: Johnny Kicklighter, Bob Herr, John & Jane McKee, Walter Hall, Janice Beasley, Matt & Andi King, Jordyn Renfrow, John Stanton, Justin Ottolini, J.C. Gideon, and Dwight & Nona Moore.

MINUTES: The September 11 minutes were approved by voice vote with a motion to accept by Bob Herr and seconded by Walter Hall.

FINANCIAL REPORT: No motion. Deferred to next meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS: Johnny Kicklighter made a presentation on Confederate Currency at Dave Roper's newly form camp located in St. Peter's, MO. Dwight Moore announced an upcoming movie regarding his son, Jeff Moore, who is a DEA Special Agent. Jeff arrested 87-year-old Leo Sharp in 2011 and was interviewed by The New York Times regarding the investigation. Sharp was a WWII veteran and drug courier for a branch of the Sinaloa Drug Cartel. The Clint Eastwood-directed movie, "The Mule," will be released on December 14. John McKee discussed a recent trip where he and his wife visited the gravesite of Dan Emmett located in the Mound View Cemetery in Mt. Vernon, OH. Emmett was an American songwriter and entertainer who is credited for writing "Dixie." He performed it for the first time in New York City on April 4, 1859. President Lincoln said in a speech, "'I have always thought that 'Dixie' was one of the best tunes I ever heard.'"

CAMP DIXON MEETING MINUTES ~ OCTOBER 6, 2018 Muster (cont'd)



GROUP PHOTO

(L-R) J. C. Gideon, Dwight Moore, John & Jane McKee, Walter Hall, Johnny Kicklighter, Bob Herr, John Stanton, Jordyn Renfrow, Andi King, Justin Ottolini, and Matt King

OLD BUSINESS: Compatriot Bob Herr discussed an upcoming trip to Fort Donelson National Battlefield located in Dover, TN which is about 80 miles northwest of Nashville, TN. Bob has been planning the trip for the weekend of October 19. About 4 members and their wives expressed interest in going.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

REFRESHMENTS: None. The camp would be doing lunch in Germantown at a local restaurant.

FORMAL PRESENTATION: None.

BENEDICTION: Johnny Kicklighter provided the benediction.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, November 13, 2018, 6:30 p.m. at the Belle-Clair Fairgrounds Exposition Center. PRESENTER will be 2nd Lt. Commander Tim Mackey, and his program will be on his Confederate ancestor. REFRESHMENTS by Asst Adjutant John & Lady Jane McKee.

Respectfully submitted,

Gale F. Red
Adjutant

Camp Dixon Visits Civil War Fort

(Saturday, October 6, 2018, Bartlesville IL) Members and friends of Camp Dixon conducted their camp meeting at Bob Eversgerde's Civil War Fort, toured the fort, and had lunch at Germantown. Attendees were: John Stanton, Johnny Kicklighter, the King family (Matt, Andi and their granddaughter, Jordyn Renfrow), John and Jane McKee, Janice Beasley, J. C. Gideon, Walter Hall, Justin Ottolini, Bob Herr, and Dwight and Nona Moore.



HAVING FUN AT THE FORT

(L-R) J. C. Gideon, Dwight & Nona Moore, Jane McKee, Walter Hall, Bob Herr, Johnny Kicklighter, Jordyn Renfrow, Andi King, John Stanton, Justin Ottolini, and Matt King



(L-R) J. C. Gideon, Dwight Moore, John & Jane McKee, Walter Hall, Johnny Kicklighter, Bob Herr, Jordyn Renfrow, Andi King, John Stanton, Justin Ottolini, and Matt King

THE ORIGIN OF THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Posted on November 28, 2013 by Stephen Clay McGehee



We're all familiar with "the Thanksgiving story," complete with pilgrims, Indians, and a feast. That's nice, but what about the holiday that we celebrate each November – how did that officially recognized observance come to be? J. Stephen Conn at The Confederate Digest tells us what the Northern history books neglect to point out. This is from a post on Confederate Digest: During the Thanksgiving season we often hear that the first national Thanksgiving Proclamation was given by Abraham Lincoln in Washington, D.C. on October 3, 1863. What the northern history books fail to mention is that Lincoln, bowing to political pressure, copied the President of the Confederate States of America. Jefferson Davis actually had made the first national Proclamation of Thanksgiving two years earlier in Richmond, Virginia. Here it is:

Proclamation of Thanksgiving, 1861 by President Jefferson Davis

WHEREAS, it hath pleased Almighty God, the Sovereign Disposer of events, to protect and defend us hitherto in our conflicts with our enemies as to be unto them a shield. And whereas, with grateful thanks we recognize His hand and acknowledge that not unto us, but unto Him, belongeth the victory, and in humble dependence upon His almighty strength, and trusting in the justness of our purpose, we appeal to Him that He may set at naught the efforts of our enemies, and humble them to confusion and shame.

Now therefore, I, Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States, in view of impending conflict, do hereby set apart Friday, the 15th day of November, as a day of national humiliation and prayer, and do hereby invite the reverend clergy and the people of these Confederate States to repair on that day to their homes and usual places of public worship, and to implore blessing of Almighty God upon our people, that he may give us victory over our enemies, preserve our homes and altars from pollution, and secure to us the restoration of peace and prosperity.

Given under hand and seal of the Confederate States at Richmond, this the 31st day of October, year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one.

By the President,
JEFFERSON DAVIS



A CONFEDERATE THANKSGIVING

By Wes Teel, Southern Heritage News & Views, Olive Branch MS (November 1, 2013)

Thanksgiving Day was predated by the Confederate Thanksgiving Day. Both in 1861 and 1862 President Jefferson Davis declared Thanksgiving Day for the Confederate States.

His eloquent declaration states:

"To the People of the Confederate States. Once more on the Plains of Manassas our armies have been blessed by The Lord of Hosts with a triumph over our enemies. It is my privilege to invite you once more to His footstool, not in the garb of fasting and sorrow, but with joy and gladness, to render thanks for the great mercies received at His hand. In such circumstances, it is meet and right that, as a people, we should bow down in adoring thankfulness to that gracious God who has been our bulwark and defense, and to offer unto him the tribute of thanksgiving and praise. In his hand is the issue of all events, and to him should we, in an especial manner, ascribe the honor of this great deliverance. Now, therefore, I, Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States, do issue this, my proclamation, setting apart Thursday, the 18th day of September inst., as a day of prayer and thanksgiving to Almighty God for the great mercies vouchsafed to our people, and more especially for the triumph of our arms at Richmond and Manassas; and I do hereby invite the people of the Confederate States to meet on that day at their respective places of public worship, and to unite in rendering thanks and praise to God for these great mercies, and to implore Him to conduct our country safely through the perils which surround us, to the final attainment of the blessings of peace and security.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Confederate States, at Richmond, this fourth day of September, A.D.1862." Jefferson Davis

Unlike their northern counter parts, who feasted on turkey, fruit, coffee, and vegetables, our southern soldiers were usually relegated to modest meal of rice, hard tack, sweet potato, and gingerbread cake.

Pat Lang writes in his article entitled "Thanksgiving in the Field - 1863" "On the 26th they had Thanksgiving. Smoot and Harris explained the nature of this feast to Balthazar (a French officer who had come to observe Gen. Lee's army), telling him of the memory of God's providence to the colonists at Jamestown. He (Balthazar) heard them out, and sent hunting parties into the woodland. Jubal Early came to dinner. He sat on a saw horse in the barn where they ate, a tin plate of venison and wild turkey in one hand, a tea cup of whiskey beside him. The troops sat in the hay eating happily." Good old Jubal, never one to turn down a good cup of whiskey.

Thanksgiving is a wonderful holiday, but we should give credit to who actually declared it first and that was Jefferson Davis, not Abraham Lincoln.

THANKSGIVING -- SOUTHERN STYLE

By Mike Jones (November 25, 2010)

Southerners had good reasons for not taking to the Thanksgiving holiday right away. It wasn't until well into the 20th Century that some places in the American South really got into the habit of celebrating the Thanksgiving holiday. Why? In the beginning, Thanksgiving had two connections that many southerners found odious, Abraham Lincoln and New England. Many places claim Thanksgiving feasts that predated that of the Pilgrims of Massachusetts in 1621, including Texas, Florida and Virginia. But the modern Thanksgiving, which started in the mid-19th Century, is based on myths and legends that took shape from New England traditions.

Sarah Josepha Hale, editor of the *Godey's Ladies Book*, began a campaign in 1846 to have the last Thursday in November proclaimed a National patriotic holiday. She wrote every president asking him to proclaim the holiday. It wasn't until President Lincoln took up her plea and proclaimed the fourth Thursday in November 1863 to be Thanksgiving. The problem was, Lincoln at the time was busy sending his Northern armies, including many New Englanders, rampaging through the South, killing hundreds of thousands of Southerners, burning and devastating Southern cities, homes and farms throughout the Confederacy.



THE POET OF OUR MESS



Governor Oran Roberts of Texas

Since Lincoln, every other U.S. president has made an annual Thanksgiving Day proclamation. But the South would have none of it. Lincoln was widely despised in the South, as was New England. The South was beaten down, impoverished and a long way from "getting over it." In 1883, when Gov. Oran Roberts of Texas was asked to proclaim the holiday and said, "It's a damned Yankee institution anyway." And that is exactly how many Southerners felt about it for decades after the war. Roberts had been the colonel of the 11th Texas Infantry in the War for Southern Independence.

An example of that Southern reluctance to celebrate the "Yankee institution" was Lake Charles, Louisiana. A survey of local newspapers there between 1899 and 1917 shows just how reluctant they were to embrace the holiday. Lake Charles had been raided by Yankees during the war, in 1862, its women and children held hostage while Yankee sailors extorted food from the town. Then 10 of their townsmen were made "human shields" on the raider's sloop, while it returned to its blockading ship in the Gulf of Mexico. In addition, many of the town's young men had died in the war, either killed in action, died of disease and wounds, or in Yankee P.O.W. camps.

In most years after the war the local newspapers make no mention at all of the holiday. It was simply ignored. Business as usual was conducted. However early in the 20th Century, a few advertisements started popping up in newspapers featuring Thanksgiving holiday sales. Then every few years, the newspaper would mention that Thanksgiving would be generally observed, contrary to the usual custom of ignoring it. What was prompting the change in attitude? Apparently, it was time, good old American advertising, football, and finally pressure tactics.

The *Lake Charles Daily American* wrote in its edition of Nov. 23, 1904, "Thanksgiving Day will probably be more generally observed in Lake Charles than has been customary. Besides the banks and public offices, most of the manufactures will be shut down and the stores closed in the afternoon."

Not much more was heard about the holiday until the *Daily American* ran an advertisement on Nov. 25, 1908, "Foot-Ball Game! Thanksgiving/ Lake Charles High School vs. Industrial Institute at Base Ball Park. Admission, Adults 50 cents, school children 25 cents. No extra charge for carriage space." In addition, there was a game between the Second Ward Giants vs. the First Ward Tigers, at no extra charge. Now that was something Southerners could get excited about on Thanksgiving.

The next year, Nov. 24, 1909, once again football was the focus of Thanksgiving activities. although church services were also mentioned in the *Daily American*. The article stated, "Tomorrow is the day when every football lover goes out to the park to see Lake Charles beat Crowley and win championship honors." The writer went on to say, "Mr. Jenkins repudiates the wild statements going around that the players have been feeding on raw beef alone for the last few days, but promises a hot contest anyway. The management will not be responsible for people injured in the rush for tickets, but will transport to the sanitarium anyone overcome with excitement during the game."

But the Nov. 28, 1916 issue of the *American Press* showed just how reluctant the people of Lake Charles were to really embrace the "Yankee institution." The headline blared, "THURSDAY IS A TRIPLE HOLIDAY, **Don't Try to Violate It**, Because You Can't. Everybody Must Close Up. Thursday will be a holiday in Lake Charles in a triple sense this year. It will be a religious holiday, in obedience to the President's proclamation, with union services by the protestant pastors of the city at Simpson Methodist church at 10 o'clock, proper observance by the church of the Good Shepherd and high mass of thanksgiving at the church of the Immaculate Conception at 8 o'clock.

"Everybody in Lake Charles may as well prepare for the holiday, for they will be obliged to observe it. . . . It is hoped Lake Charles will enter into the spirit of the occasion, decorate their homes and places of business, and help show the visitors a good time." However, there was no mention of a football game, so the day was probably a bust.

The next year, 1917, once again there was no mention in the newspaper of local observances of Thanksgiving. But as time passed, Thanksgiving finally caught on and in 1935, the newspaper notes there were Thanksgiving parties, dinners and celebrations in Lake Charles. In addition, local rice farmers were making big money raising and selling turkeys to the local population.

It had taken a long time, but Southerners finally found things they could get excited about Thanksgiving, namely feasting on turkey and watching football. Southerners have created their own Thanksgiving customs, rather than just accept those of the "Yankee institution." They have also added a Southern-Cajun flair with deep fried turkey, injected with flavorful spices, and invented such things as the "turducken" (a deboned chicken, stuffed in a deboned duck, stuffed in a deboned turkey). The South just seems to make things better and more fun.

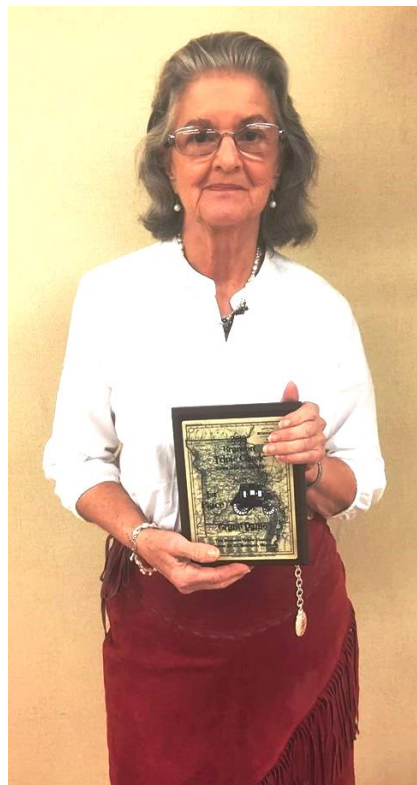


NEWS FROM AROUND THE CAMP



GET-WELL WISHES TO MARY BETH BIEKERT

Our pastor's wife underwent another intestinal surgery on October 29. Please keep her in your prayers to mend quickly and get back to normal.



CONGRATULATIONS TO LADY JANICE BEASLEY

Janice won First Place in the Grand Dame Category at the Cowboy Shoot in Branson MO over the last weekend in October. We're so very proud of her!

CAMP CALENDAR OF EVENTS



NOVEMBER

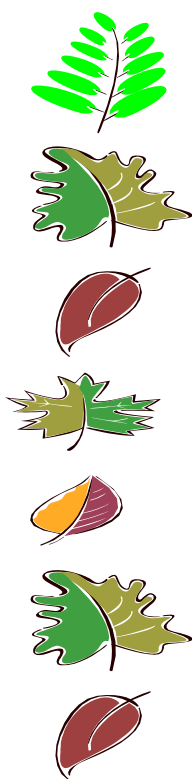
- 4 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS
(set clocks back 1 hour)
- 6 ELECTION DAY (VOTE)
- 11 VETERANS DAY
- 13 6:30 CAMP MEETING
- 22 THANKSGIVING DAY

DECEMBER

- 7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 11 6:30 CAMP MEETING
- 21 Winter Solstice
- 25 CHRISTMAS DAY
- 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE

JANUARY

- 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY
- 8 6:30 CAMP MEETING
- 21 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DAY



NOVEMBER

- 1 PAT BOOTH (Flora IL)
- 3 TALLEY BAILEY (Chepachet RI)
- 4 LADY JANICE BEASLEY (Walsh IL)
- 11 DON CARNLEY (Highland IL)
- 13 DALE HALEMEYER (Golden Eagle IL)
- 14 JEFFRY BARNES (O'Fallon IL)
- 24 AMZY HIBLER (Lakeway TX)
- 28 LARRY WEBER (Effingham IL)



CAMP DIXON LEADERSHIP

Commander
 1st Lt Commander
 2nd Lt Commander
 2nd Lt Commander
 Adjutant
 Asst Adjutant
 Chaplain
 Sgt of Arms
 Program Chairman
 Historian
 Door Greeter
 Quartermaster

John Douglas Stanton
 Timothy Lee Mackey
 John Wayne Kicklighter
 Matthew James King
 Gale Franklin Red
 John Mitchell McKee
 Walter Michael Biekert
 David Francis Schmitt
 Gale Franklin Red
 VACANT
 VACANT
 VACANT

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