

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



# THE DIXON BLUE LIGHT NFWs

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

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



Editor: Lady Sharon Red, Cell 618-622-8949

NOVEMBER 2019



**CELEBRATE THANKSGIVING AND GIVE THANKS  
FOR YOUR BLESSINGS AT THE NEXT  
CAMP DIXON MEETING  
Belle-Clair Fairgrounds**

**TUESDAY**

**NOVEMBER 12, 2019**

**6:30 P. M.**



## CAMP DIXON VETERANS

We will always remember and respect your outstanding courage, commitment to freedom, and be grateful for honorable Americans like you who have given so much to our great country. Thank you for unselfishly serving and representing the USA and our camp so honorably.

Jeff Barnes  
Eric Funkhouser  
David Haake  
Walter Hall  
Gordon Hayes  
Johnny Kicklighter  
Matt King  
Charles Lee  
Bob Marley  
John Massey  
Mark Morgan  
Dwight Moore  
Gale Red  
Jack Sandford  
Dave Schmitt  
John Stanton  
Phil Tate  
Arthur Tulak  
Al Wandling

## FROM THE COMMANDER

**ATTENTION TO ORDERS:** Greetings to all faithful members of the Lt. George E. Dixon SCV Camp #1962. Comrades, when I feel that we as a camp conduct and faithfully hold up our role as the inheritors of our common ancestor's legacy, I will be the first to offer my congratulations. Likewise, when I believe that when we do not rise to the occasion for the same reasons, I would be amiss as commander to not appropriately respond.

Each and every member knows full well the history over the last two years of our difficulties with the current administrator of the VA. Last year he prohibited us from our annual Confederate Memorial Service at the Alton IL Cemetery as well as with the Wreaths Across America event. It was with great diligence from Adjutant Gale Red and Compatriot Bobby Samuel who worked with authorities higher in the chain of command that we were able to hold this year's event. As a camp we have discussed this issue for the last two years. There have been many verbal complaints in our meetings about this injustice against our right to assemble at this site. Many of our members have voiced their indignation towards this obstacle placed in front of our camp. At the last meeting we asked each member to place this event as an important thought to attend. As a camp we do not have many events that overburden our member's schedules and time, but in light of the recent history I feel that this ceremony should have rated much higher with our membership than with the meager attendance at the cemetery. It wasn't just my view of the lack of attendance, but with the members who did attend too. I was approached by quite a few at the event who voiced their sadness in the fact that the membership did not respond in a manner they felt warranted for this occasion. I would like to thank the members who did attend. We only had a total of 15 people in attendance, including the ladies. My thanks to John McKee for altering his plans to attend and for Justin Ottolini who did the same. If those two did not come it would have really looked bad. To make the situation worse, the VA Director who has opposed us attended. If I were in his shoes, I would feel embolden to continue my obstructive methods against such a paltry number. I think that each of us individually who went to the event felt a little like Gary Cooper in the movie, High Noon. Everyone was vocal in his support in the movie but when the chips were down, nobody showed up to help. I realize that some members had legitimate reasons not to attend. I am certain that we can do better. I also hope we can get a better turnout for our Wreaths Across America event on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>.

God Bless. I hope to see all at the November meeting.

**Confederately,**

*John Stanton*

**\*\*\* NEXT CAMP DIXON MEETING \*\*\*  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2019 ~ 6:30 p.m.**

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

**PRESENTER: Commander John Stanton**  
**PROGRAM: The Kingdom of Jones County, MS**  
**REFRESHMENTS: Compatriot Phil Tate**

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

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## CAMP DIXON MEETING MINUTES ~ OCTOBER 8, 2019 Muster

The members and friends of the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp # 1962, S.C.V., conducted their monthly Muster at 6:35 p.m. on October 8, 2019 at the Exposition Hall, Belle Clair Fairgrounds, Belleville IL; this being the 10<sup>th</sup> Muster of the year 2019.

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

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

**INVOCATION:** Chaplain Mike Biekert

**PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS (Pledge of Allegiance, and Salute to Confederate Flag):** The American Flag was properly displayed. 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Commander Matt King led everyone in attendance to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States and the salute to the Confederate Flag.

**SWEARING-IN:** None.

**PROCEDURAL BUSINESS:** None.

**ROLL CALL (20) (Adjutant Gale Red).** *Please ensure everyone signs the muster roll.*

Those present included: Walter Mike Biekert, Conner Cowan (guest), Craig Cowan (guest), Walter Hall, Eric Funkhouser, J. C. Gideon, Bob Herr, Johnny Kicklighter, Ronald Lakin and Alexis (Lexy) Rensing (guest), Jim Lumma, John McKee, Matt King, Greg Krieg, Gale & Sharon Red, Dale Rice, Jack Sandford, John Stanton, and Phil Tate.



### GROUP PHOTO

(L-R) (1<sup>st</sup> Row, seated) Phil Tate, Gale Red, Ron Lakin, and Lexy Rensing  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Row) J. C. Gideon, Matt King, Eric Funkhouser, John Stanton, Jim Lumma,  
Mike Biekert, Dale Rice and John McKee

Photographer: Sharon Red

## **CAMP DIXON MEETING MINUTES ~ OCTOBER 8, 2019 Muster (cont'd)**

**MINUTES:** The September 10, 2019 meeting minutes were approved by a motion to accept by Bob Herr and seconded by Jack Sandford with a unanimous all-hands-agreed vote.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Gale Red reported the financial report of \$6,839.48. An expense of \$10 per month is spent to print/send out the newsletter. The Financial Report was approved by a motion to accept by Phil Tate and seconded by Bob Herr with a unanimous all-hands-agreed vote.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**CEREMONY HONORING BOB MOHRMAN ON HIS ARTIFACT DONATIONS, NOVEMBER 9, ST. LOUIS CIVIL WAR MUSEUM (Commander Stanton).** Attendance from Hecker Camp and Camp Dixon cancelled. Only Bob's family will be present.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**ALTON CONFEDERATE CEMETERY MEMORIAL, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2019, 11:00-12:00 (Adjutant Red).**

- Please put this on your calendar to attend. Worked intensely with the VA to have the memorial this Saturday. Received authorization at 3:00 p.m. today. Setup scheduled for 1030. We will start at 11:00, and it will last an hour. Prepared to have it on the street if necessary. The following raised their hands that they would come: Jim (and Barb) Lumma, Jack Sandford, Mike Biekert, Eric Funkhouser (tent), Ron Lakin (and Lexy), J. C. Gideon, Matt King, John Stanton, and Justin Ottolini.
- On Monday of next week, will submit request for Wreaths Across America, December 14. Hope it will go through. Last year we put up the wreaths, and the next morning Mr. Ryan had them come down.

**SHARON RED HAS PREPARED THE FOLLOWING FOR YOU TO SIGN (Adjutant Red):**

- **2020 REFRESHMENTS LIST**
- **2020 PROGRAM PRESENTATION LIST**
- **BIRTHDAY (OCT. 20) CARD FOR AL WANDLING** to add your best wishes.

**PROPOSE A BLUE/GRAY BANQUET TOGETHER (Commander Stanton).** Hecker Camp Commander Wildermuth suggested this get-together and would like our opinion. I think it's a great idea. The Civil War Museum would be nice. What do you think?

### **REFRESHMENTS**

Since it was Taco Tuesday, Asst Adjutant John McKee decided to bring hard and soft tortillas with all the toppings (hamburger, diced white-meat chicken, diced tomatoes, shredded lettuce, warm gooey cheese, and sour cream) and beverages.

**Thanks, John, for taking such good care of us!**

*(His wife, Jane, was absent. She flew to Oklahoma to help her daughter who was hurt in an accident.)*





## CAMP DIXON MEETING MINUTES ~ OCTOBER 8, 2019 Muster (cont'd)

**PROGRAM:** Compatriot Phil Tate from Mascoutah IL presented a briefing on his Confederate ancestor, his great-grandfather, Private Joseph B. Williams, Company A, 14<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry, C.S.A., and provided a 98-page handout with pictures and excerpts.

### Synopsis

The presentation on Private Joseph B. Williams covered some history of his hometown, Clarksville, Tennessee. The Confederate Memorial in Greenwood Cemetery was pictured with Confederate soldiers of Forbes' Bivouac, along with Williams' gravesite and the gravesite of Tate's other Civil War ancestor, great-grandfather Private Josiah R. Neblett. Greenwood Cemetery's noteworthy gravesites were pictured to include Tennessee Governor Willie Blount, U.S. Congressman John Ford House, professional golfer Mason Rudolph, actor Frank Sutton of Gomer Pyle fame, U.S. Senator James Edmund Bailey, Associate Supreme Court Justice Horace Harmon Lutton, Governor Austin Peay, U.S. House of Representatives and Postmaster General Cave Johnson, and Confederate Senator Gustavus Henry.

Other photos depicted Tate's father turning over some Confederate muster rolls to the county museum, elderly Rebels at a birthday party, marching in parades, and reenacting Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1913. President Theodore Roosevelt endorsed a policy of returning flags captured during the Civil War and the 14<sup>th</sup> Connecticut returned the 14<sup>th</sup> Tennessee's in 1905. Other photos depicted Clarksville's Grange Tobacco Warehouse, Dunbar Cave and swimming pool, Idaho Springs Hotel, and Fort Campbell.

Photos depicted a reenactment group from Maryland who had adopted the 14<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry Regiment, Company B, as their Civil War unit. This unit returned to Clarksville in May 2015 to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the unit's return to Clarksville after the war.

The briefing detailed Peter Turney's attempted secession of Franklin County to annex it to Alabama. Tennessee's secession from the Union on June 8, 1861 made this attempted secession moot.

The briefing then covered the 14<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Infantry Regiment's journey from Clarksville to Nashville, to Chattanooga, to Knoxville, to Haynesville, and into Virginia to fight with Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. The Tennessee Brigade was formed--core components consisting of the 7<sup>th</sup> Tennessee, the 14<sup>th</sup> Tennessee, Turney's 1<sup>st</sup> Tennessee, the 5<sup>th</sup> Alabama Battalion, and the 13<sup>th</sup> Alabama.

A few battles were depicted: Cheat Mountain, Second Battle of Manassas, Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg. Some interesting episodes included catching a sheep; incompetent surgeon; brilliance of Lee; General Pender shot by sniper; light from a corpse; General Heth's oversized hat; confiscation of shoes; confiscation of bacon; shooting of a Yankee dog; cannonading at Gettysburg; Rebels charging the heights on Cemetery Ridge--scaling the stone wall--capturing the Yankee gun--shooting the gunner--and taking the whole command within the works; respect for Lee while he slept; bravery of a Federal battery; humanity at Petersburg.

Confederate veteran, Joseph B. Williams, lived long enough to see Forbes Bivouac dissolved in 1931 due to the lack of surviving members and their advanced age, making attendance at meetings difficult. Indeed, Williams, Dr. Thomas Dickson Johnson, and B.W. Ballentine were the last three members of their old company. Ballentine died on April 17, 1916 at the "old soldiers home near Nashville" where he had been taken ten days prior by Johnson and Williams. Dr. Johnson died March 7, 1918 at age 76. Williams left the cherished banner of the bivouac in the hands of Mrs. W.W. Warfield, president of the Caroline Merriwether Goodlett Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. At the time of his passing on March 6, 1936, he was a retired contractor. The old soldier succumbed to a fatal case of the flu.

**BENEDICTION:** Chaplain Biekert delivered the benediction.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, November 12, 2019, 6:30 p.m., at the Belle-Clair Fairgrounds Exposition Center. Presenter will be Commander Stanton who will talk about "The Kingdom of Jones County MS." Refreshments will be provided by Compatriot Phil Tate.



PVT. JOSEPH B. WILLIAMS

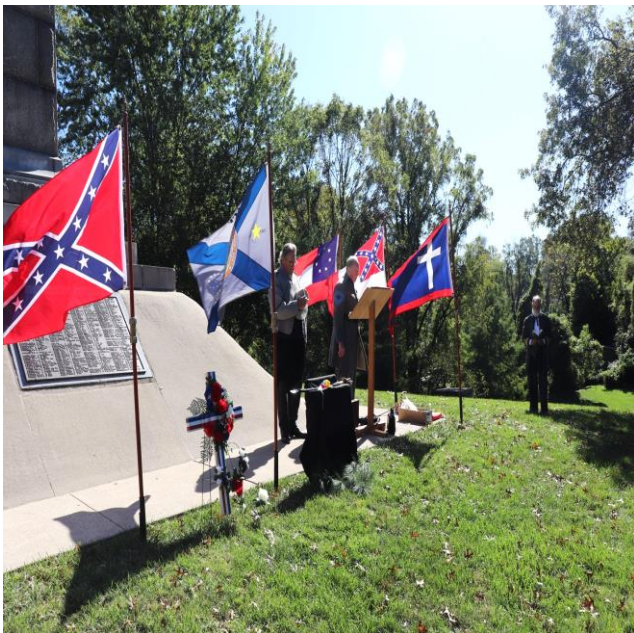
Respectfully submitted,

*Gale F. Red*  
Adjutant

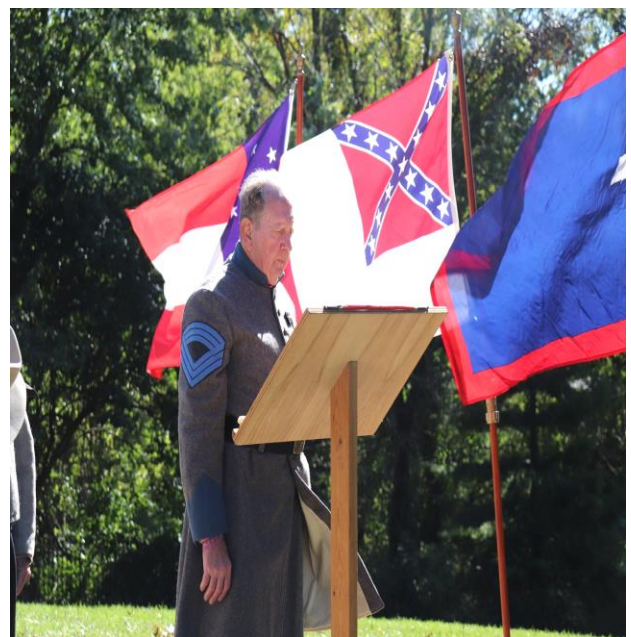
# **ANNUAL CONFEDERATE MEMORAL NORTH ALTON CONFEDERATE CEMETERY SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2019**



The day started off with a cold 31 degrees but turned into a comforting beautiful sunny day with a calming breeze to honor Confederate veterans! Camp Dixon was well represented in Alton by members and friends alike. In attendance were: Commander John Stanton, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Commander Matt King (and Lady Andrea “Andi” King with granddaughter, Jordyn), Adjutant Gale Red, Asst Adjutant John McKee (photographer), Chaplain Mike Biekert, Compatriots Justin Ottolini, Ron Lakin (and Alexis “Lexy” Rensing), Dale Rice (and son), Walter Hall, J. C. and JoAnn Gideon, a neighbor from across the street, and Mr. Ryan (VA Dir) with his friend.



*Welcome by Commander John Stanton and  
Adjutant Gale Red*



*Adjutant Gale Red (MC)*



### Program

*Music Prelude – Welcome ... Camp Commander John Stanton*

*Invocation ... Chaplain Mike Biekert*

*Pledge of Allegiance ... Compatriot Dale Rice*

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States, and to the republic for which  
it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

*Salute to the Confederate Flag ... 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Commander Matt King*

I salute the Confederate flag with affection, reverence, and undying devotion to the cause for which it stands.

*Poem (The Thin Gray Line) by Grantland Rice ... Compatriot Justin Ottolini*

Thinner with every passing year,  
Fewer at roll call answering "Here."  
There's a gap today where none replies  
And the sergeant misses a coat of gray  
While the Captain, looking with misty eyes,  
Bows his head as he turns away;  
None to answer, and he knows why  
As the thin gray line goes marching by.

Thinner with every passing year,  
Fewer at roll call answering "Here."  
One by one where the shadows creep  
Under the sod for which they fought  
One by one they must fall asleep  
Where love and the lilies like a couch have wrought,  
And the south wind carried a comrade's sigh  
As the thin gray line goes marching by.

One by one from the year's gray toll  
The line thins out as the war drums roll;  
One by one they march away  
Where Lee and his legions keep the guard;  
One by one and the coat of gray  
Rests where the roses crown the sword;  
Yet from the street comes a ringing cry  
As the thin gray line goes marching by.

Thinner with every passing year,  
Fewer at roll call answering "Here."  
And the day is ahead when the South shall weep  
And turn to the sod where her heroes sleep  
As the grizzled sergeant calls I vain –  
Calls where the silence settles deep  
Around dim mounds on hill and plain;  
And "Dixie" turns with a saddened sign  
Where the thin line passed as a dream must die.

*Memorial Remarks ... Camp Commander John Stanton*

*"Dixie" ... Chaplain Mike Biekert (sung by all)*

I wish I was in the land of cotton,  
Old times there are not forgotten.  
Look away, Look away, Look away Dixie Land.

In Dixie Land where I was born,  
Early on a frosty mornin'  
Look away, Look away, Look away Dixie Land.

Then I wish I was in Dixie – Hooray, Hooray!  
In Dixie Land I'll take my stand  
To live and die in Dixie.

Away, Away, Away down south in Dixie.  
Away, Away, Away down south in Dixie.

### Presentation of Honors

*Sword ... Compatriot Justin Ottolini*

*Battle Flag to Widow ... Commander John Stanton*

*Widow's Single Rose ... Alexis Rensing*

*Family Bouquet ... Compatriot Justin Ottolini*

*Evergreens ... 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Commander Matt King*

*SCV Cross – Confederate Widow ... Alexis Rensing*

*Spreading of Southern Soils*

*"Amazing Grace" (1<sup>st</sup> Verse)*

*Moment of Silent Prayer*

*Taps*

*Benediction ... Chaplain Mike Biekert*



*Invocation ... Chaplain Mike Biekert*



*(L-R) Chaplain Biekert, Matt King, Ron Lakin, Alexis Rensing, Walter Hall, Andi King with Jordyn Renfrow, and Dale Rice with his son*



*Justin Ottolini*



*(L-R) Chaplain Biekert, Matt King, Ron Lakin, Alexis Rensing, and Walter Hall*



*Many Thanks To Our Wonderful Photographer John McKee*



*Dale Rice and son*



*Adjutant Gale Red (MC)*



*Matt and Andi King with Jordyn*





### **GROUP PHOTO**

***(L-R) Justin Ottolini, John Stanton, Dale Rice and son, Walter Hall, Gale Red, Matt King, Jordyn Renfrow, Andi King, Alexis Rensing, Ron Lakin, Mike Biekert, and John McKee***



***Andi King with her granddaughter, Jordyn***



***Commander Stanton, Adjutant Red, and Chaplain Biekert***



***Matt King, Ron Lakin, & Alexis Rensing***



***Benediction  
Commander Stanton and Chaplain Biekert***



## News From Around the Camp



LADY JANICE BEASLEY  
(from Walsh IL)



COMPATRIOT CHRIS ZIEBOLD  
(from Waterloo IL)



Lady Janice "Liberty" Beasley and Ron "Sundance" White  
At the Banquet

### CONGRATULATIONS ON THE TENNESSEE STATE SHOOT

Sundance was 2nd in Cattle Baron. Liberty was 4th in Grand Dame, their age categories. Liberty is still using a cane so was not able to move around quickly.

There was a lot of movement in the stages. She was pleased to finish 12 stages in 2 days and only had one miss.



COMPATRIOT BILL BOYD  
(from Columbia IL)

### THINKING OF YOU, JANICE, CHRIS, AND BILL

We have been missing Janice, Chris, and Bill at the meetings and hope they are just taking a break. However, we understand Janice is recovering from hip surgery, and needs time to heal. Hope they all come to the November 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

*(The camp sent thinking-of-you cards.)*

## 15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL JOHN A. LOGAN COLLEGE CIVIL WAR DAYS OCTOBER 2019



Artillery demonstration by Alan Winthorpe and Tony Edwards. Brook Schlyer pulls the cannon lanyard.



Aaron and mother, Linda Adams, with Bobby Samuel. Aaron was enlisted to help Bobby with his presentation.



Tim Bullard reenacted as a Confederate Infantryman.



Michael Pierpoint  
Former Illinois  
Div Commander

These pictures are from Compatriot Bobby Samuel during the 15<sup>th</sup> annual John A. Logan College Civil War Days event. The college hosts youngsters from local schools for children in 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grades. They, along with teachers and chaperons, are treated to a day-long series of speakers and exhibits by Civil War reenactors and speakers. Bobby has participated for the last 13 years. He talked about Confederate flags and about Robert E. Lee whom he portrayed. Our past Illinois Division Commander, Michael Pierpoint, set up a Union officer encampment and talked about life as a Union officer.

## CAMP CALENDAR OF EVENTS



### NOVEMBER

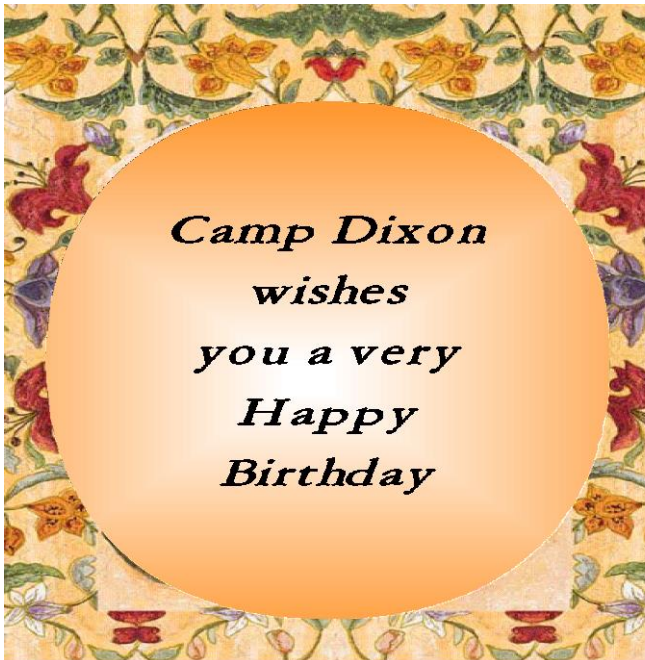
- 3 Daylight Saving Time Ends  
(set clocks back one hour)
- 5 ELECTION DAY (Vote)
- 11 VETERANS DAY
- 12 6:30 CAMP MEETING
- 28 THANKSGIVING

### DECEMBER

- 7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 10 6:30 CAMP MEETING
- 14 ANNUAL WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA
- 22 First Day of Winter
- 25 CHRISTMAS DAY
- 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE

### JANUARY 2020

- 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY
- 14 6:30 CAMP MEETING
- 20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day



### NOVEMBER

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



### CAMP DIXON LEADERSHIP

Commander	John Douglas Stanton	Cell 618-610-6464
1 <sup>st</sup> Lt Commander	Matthew James King	(H) 510-213-1972
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
Door Greeter	Lady Susan Harris	Cell 618-550-8784