

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

FEBRUARY 2020

CELEBRATE AN EXTRA NIGHT WITH YOUR VALENTINE

**AND BRING HER/HIM TO
THE NEXT CAMP DIXON MEETING
Belle-Clair Fairgrounds**

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 11, 2020 6:30 P. M.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

PRESENTATION: The American Civil War Beginnings

PRESENTER: Adjutant Gale Red

REFRESHMENTS: Adjutant Gale & Lady Sharon Red

CAMP MEETINGS

Meetings are open to the public and are generally held on the second Tuesday evening each month at 6:30 p.m. at the:

**Belle-Clair Fairgrounds
Exposition Center
200 South Belt East
Belleville, Illinois**

(Parking/Entrance on East Side of Building)

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 Gale Red, Cell 618-622-8949

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 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 descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate military or as a civil servant. Direct or collateral kinship to a qualifying veteran or civil servant must be documented for full membership. We offer genealogical assistance with 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. Applicants must be 12 or older.

FROM THE COMMANDER

ATTENTION TO ORDERS: Greetings, loyal SCV members of the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp. It was a very solemn moment at our last monthly meeting when Adjutant Gale Red announced his very difficult health crisis with the camp. Our heartfelt prayers are with him and his wife, Sharon, during this critical phase of his illness. It was at times like this that many of our Confederate ancestors experienced like-minded questions as to their earthly demise and the prospect as to where an individual might stand before a holy and just Creator. During the Civil War in the midst of the Southern ranks, a revival of the gospel broke out and resulted in many soldiers embracing the Messiah as their Savior. As they were faced with the real chance of their death at any time during this ordeal, the soldiers began in earnest to ponder their religious state. In an unprecedented manner, the chaplains of the Southern Armies performed their duties to their God and to their comrades in arms with courage and devotion. In many Southern units, slaves were asked to undertake the position as army chaplain owing to their sincerity and eloquence in delivering sermons. Following the aftermath of the war a religious revival broke out in the United States which was in direct relation to the carnage and suffering of the nation in the shadows of such carnage. Pray to God for such deliverance in our present day. I fear that with the current demise of our culture that it is only by the power of the Almighty that this nation's ship will righted. Remember that our February meeting is at hand. I exhort all faithful members to gather once again in our unity of purpose. In closing as always, GOD bless.

Confederately,

John Stanton



Farewell, Roger "Butch" Harris

September 1, 1957-January 14, 2020

Sue Harris, our camp door greeter, lost her husband, Butch, the morning of January 14. He had gone to work as usual, but while driving his Waste Management truck, he had chest pains and called Sue. They talked for 45 minutes, then the truck went into a ditch. They never said goodbye.

He died at the Gateway Regional Medical Center in Granite City IL.

(More info, pages 5 and 9.)



Warm Welcome

New Lady of the Golden Circle

Andrea "Andi" King

On January 14, Andi, the wife of 1st Lt Commander Matt King, was inducted as a member of the Knights and Ladies of the Golden Circle in Camp Dixon. Welcome, Andi.

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CAMP DIXON MEETING MINUTES ~ JANUARY 14, 2019 Muster

The members and friends of the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp # 1962, S.C.V., conducted their monthly Muster at 6:38 p.m. on January 14, 2020 at the Exposition Center, Belle-Clair Fairgrounds, Belleville IL; this being the 1st Muster of the year 2020.

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

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

INVOCATION: Chaplain Mike Biekert

PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS (Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to Confederate Flag): The American Flag was properly displayed. 1st 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 OF ANDREA "ANDI" KING AS A LADY IN THE GOLDEN CIRCLE.



Andi is taking the oath

1st Lt Commander Matt King, her husband,
read the oath.



Andi is holding her certificate

(L-R) 2nd Lt Commander Ron Lakin,
Commander John Stanton,
Andi, Matt, and Adjutant Gale Red

PROCEDURAL BUSINESS (Adjutant Red). Received member certifications in the mail from HQ today for Craig and Conner Cowan. *(Please note if you are buying something from HQ that they are critically short of staff. To expedite matters, mail in your order with 8% shipping fee.)*

Presentation of Member Certificates, Pins, and Stickers to Craig and Conner Cowan



Presentation to Conner Cowan
Adjutant Gale Red and
Commander John Stanton



Presentation to Craig Cowan
Adjutant Gale Red and
Commander John Stanton



Group Presentation
Matt King, Ron Lakin,
John Stanton, Craig & Conner

CAMP DIXON MEETING MINUTES ~ JANUARY 14, 2019 Muster (cont'd)

ROLL CALL (28) (Adjutant Gale Red). *Please ensure everyone signs the muster roll.*

Those present included: Janice Beasley, Walter Mike Biekert, Conner Cowan, Craig Cowan, Walter Hall, Eric Funkhouser, J. C. Gideon, Johnny Kicklighter, Greg Krieg, Ronald Lakin, Doug & Betty Lawrence, Matt & Andi King, Jim & Barb Lumma, Michael Mauer (guest), John & Jane McKee, Gale & Sharon Red, Jordyn Renfrow (guest), Dale Rice, Jack Sandford, Dave Schmitt, Jerry Smith, John Stanton, and Phil Tate.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *(Sharon Red commented that the date of the minutes should be corrected as December 10 not December 11.)* The December 10, 2019 meeting minutes were approved by a motion to accept by Jim Lumma and seconded by Jack Sandford with a unanimous all-hands-agreed vote.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Adjutant Gale Red reported the financial report of \$7,188.48, including all checks cashed/deposited and the \$319 donations raised for the Christmas fund. The Financial Report was approved by a motion to accept by Jack Sandford and seconded by John McKee with a unanimous all-hands-agreed vote.

COMMUNICATIONS

DENNIS ASH, FORMER COMMANDER OF THE KEMPSHAW CAMP, PASSED ON JANUARY 10 (Adjutant Red). Dennis succeeded Ed Briggs as commander, and had been fighting a long and painful cancer for 10 years. We will send a condolence card to his wife.

SUSAN HARRIS (OUR DOOR GREETER) – HER HUSBAND, BUTCH, PASSED TODAY (Adjutant Red). Susan received a call that Butch had a massive heart attack while at work. She is totally devastated, was completely dependent on Butch, and has no means for the funeral expenses. They were married 39 years. We will send a condolence card.

MY CANCER IS BACK AND IT'S WORSE (Adjutant Red). Today has not been the best for good news. I found out this morning that my CLL cancer has morphed and is now in my bones. I've had serious pain across my entire chest, and the oncologist believes it's in my bone marrow. I'm scheduled for a bone marrow biopsy on Thursday, and then a PET scan on Monday. Please pray for me.

OLD BUSINESS

CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY OUTREACH (Adjutant Red). \$319 received but not used yet. Very generous outpouring from the camp over the last two months to be used for a Christmas project. It was agreed by resolution to match the sum with our camp fund to equal a substantial amount. Was not able to connect with potential people. Given a lot of thought – open the floor – consider donating to Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital or St. Jude's Research.

- (Walter Hall) Why not donate to the family on the cuff?
- (J. C. Gideon) Veterans homes from Illinois need assistance. Closest is in Anna and Quincy. They don't often ask for help but there's a real need for clothing, food, etc. Will accept all gently used clothing. Would be nice if someone could transport items.
- (Walter Hall) A friend of mine receives bedding from hotels – could obtain a month's worth.
- (Johnny Kicklighter) The ministry exchange with our church can get sundry things.
 - (Adjutant Red) Will you work as a chairman on this?
 - (Johnny Kicklighter) Would like to talk to the person personally.
- (Jim Lumma) Will be happy to take the things down.
- (Adjutant Red) Suggest we use the funds (\$319) to help Susan Harris with funeral expenses. Passed the hat and collected an additional \$213 (Jim Lumma to send \$20 check). Giving her \$871 was approved by a motion to accept by Johnny Kicklighter and seconded by Jack Sandford with a unanimous all-hands-agreed vote.

CAMP DIXON MEETING MINUTES ~ JANUARY 14, 2019 Muster (cont'd)



GROUP PHOTO

(L-R) (1st Row) Barb Lumma, Jordyn Renfrow, Betty Lawrence, and Jim Lumma
(2nd Row) Dave Schmitt, Jerry Smith, Ron Lakin, Matt & Andi King, Dale Rice, Janice Beasley, Eric Funkhouser, Conner Cowan, Jane McKee, and Gale & Sharon Red
(3rd Row) Doug Lawrence, Phil Tate, John Stanton, Mike Mauer, Mike Biekert, J. C. Gideon, Craig Cowan, and John McKee

Photographer: Walter Hall



Matt & Andi King

REFRESHMENTS

Matt & Andi King brought pulled pork sandwiches, chips, and beverages.

Thank you, Matt & Andi, for taking such good care of us.

PRESENTATION

Lady Sharon Red presented a powerpoint briefing on "2019 Scrapbook of Camp Dixon."

Synopsis

Sharon Red showed a photo display of the camp's activities conducted in 2019 (camp meetings, refreshment volunteers, briefing presenters, annual memorials, homecoming parades, and Hunley JROTC awards). She also showed the planned events for 2020.



Sharon Red

BENEDICTION: Chaplain Biekert delivered the benediction.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, February 11, 2020, 6:30 p.m., at the Belle-Clair Fairgrounds Exposition Center. Presenter will be Adjutant Gale Red who will discuss "The American Civil War Beginnings." Refreshments will be provided by Adjutant Gale & Lady Sharon Red.

Respectfully submitted,

Gale F. Red
Adjutant

ROGER J. HARRIS, SR.



Roger J. Harris Sr., 62, of Belleville, IL, born September 1, 1957, died Tuesday, January 14, 2020, at Gateway Regional Medical Center, Granite City, IL.

Mr. Harris was an employee of Waste Management for 30 years. He was a great grandfather, father, son, and husband and will be deeply missed.

Surviving are his wife, Susan, nee Doran, Harris of Belleville, IL
a son, Roger Jr. (Lindsay) Harris of Swansea, IL
a daughter, Mary (Chan) Emerson of Belleville, IL
his parents, Rodger Harris of Belleville, IL and Mary McFalls of Belleville, IL
six grandchildren, Cory Harris, Jordan Venetta
Natalie Harris, Tayshawn Emerson
Madison Harris, and Hailey Harris
four sisters, Ann (Tom) Frees of Swansea, IL
Dianna (Tom) Menner of Red Bud, IL
Donna Harris of Sparta, IL
and Debra (Kurt) Philipp of Colorado Springs, CO
a stepbrother, Johnathan Harris
and nieces and nephews

Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.rennerfh.com.

Visitation: A memorial visitation will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, January 21, 2020, at George Renner & Sons Funeral Home, Belleville, IL.

Private family services will be held.



Wonderful Confederate Valentines

By Patricia A. Kaufmann



There are many opinions as to how valentines came to originate. The most popular theory that a priest named Valentine was executed on the order of Emperor Claudius II for secretly marrying couples in ancient Rome. With it comes a lengthy and oft repeated story of his jailor's blind daughter, a miracle of restored sight, a love note sent while awaiting execution, and so forth.



Whichever of the stories you embrace, the date of February 14 is set aside to honor St. Valentine and is a time to exchange love messages now known as valentines. During the Civil War, most Confederate valentines were hand-made due to the scarcity of paper caused by the blockade cutting off importation of paper sources from the North and Europe. As there were only five such days during the War, Confederate valentines are obviously rare and especially sought after.

Arguably, the most well-known of these Confederate valentines is a large circular valentine, an amazing example of colorful folk art on both the cover and the valentine. The circular verse culminates with a Confederate flag in the center, a spectacular design. I am grateful to Scott Trepel of Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries, Inc. for providing it for illustration with this article. It has been sold more than once through the Siegel firm and understandably generated much enthusiastic bidding and escalating high prices over the years.

Another Confederate valentine that has remained in my memory for decades was one from the late David Kohn, a mentor of mine in the early 1970's when he was then in his nineties. His valentine was a treasured family heirloom from his father, Theodore Kohn, who had enlisted in the Edisto Rifles from Orangeburg and was in Charleston when the first shots were fired at Ft. Sumter. While I don't know whether the valentine remained in the family or moved on to a lucky collector, the verse and story always stuck with me, partly because Dave was the closest direct link to the Civil War that I ever met.

Dave's father was the oldest of ten children who settled in South Carolina from Germany in 1850. When Theodore was ten years old, he was taken into the family of his uncle and grew up in the company of his young cousin, Mary Louis. For Valentine's Day 1863, his cousin, Mary, made him a valentine in which she teased him about his curly hair and his unusual eyes, one brown and one blue! It was posted in an embossed envelope with a pair of Confederate 5¢ local prints, Scott #7, to James Island via Charleston.

The verse went like this:

I love thee not for that dark eye,
Nor for those ringlets flowing,
But for thy heart, I fondly sigh,
With truth and virtue glowing;
For charms in beauty ne'er we find,
Which time won't quickly sever;
But the best charms are charms of mind
For those I'll love thee ever.



David Kohn wrote of this cherished family treasure in the first all-Confederate issue of the old Weekly Philatelic Gossip in February 1951, a magazine that I still enjoy poring through over fifty years later. I think of The American Stamp Dealer and Collector as a modern version of that outstanding publication to which philatelic luminaries of old contributed.

Source: https://www.americanstampdealer.com/SubMenu/Confederate_Valentines.aspx?id=367



Confederate Valentines



Happy Valentine's Day! These Valentines cards were posted by the Museum of the Confederacy today on Twitter. Hand drawn by Pvt. Alexander Stone, he drew and colored these cards for his daughters, Rebecca and Beth Stone, and sent them around February 1863. The cards contain a hand-drawn decoration of border and hearts in red and blue pencil.



Alexander Stone resided in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina at the beginning of the war. At age 30, he enlisted there as a Private in Co. E, 11th North Carolina State Troops on February 19, 1862. The rolls show him present or accounted for until July 4, 1863 when he was captured near Gettysburg. He was sent as a POW to Fort Delaware and then transferred to Point Lookout around October 15-18. He was hospitalized at Point Lookout's hospital on October 26 with acute diarrhea. He died in the hospital on January 26, 1864.

Source: <https://theprattvilledragoons.blogspot.com/2013/02/confederate-valentines.html>

Civil War Valentines

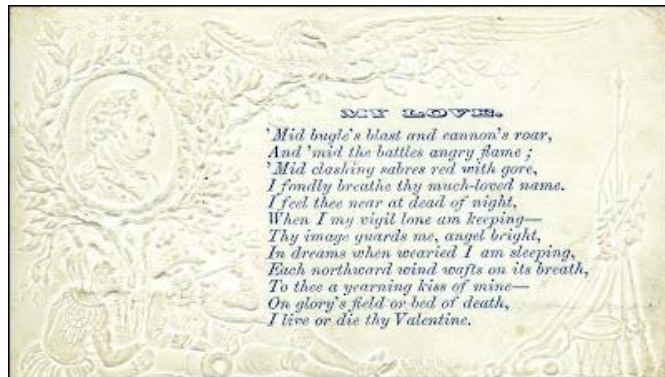


With Valentine's Day just around the corner, I thought a look back on the traditions and practices of the holiday might be fun. For instance, did you know that during the American Civil War, homesick and love struck soldiers sent Valentine Cards from the battlefield?

It was a common occurrence on the home-front to receive letters and small items from the battle-lines but during special holidays, those items often took on a more romantic and sentimental tone. Harpers Weekly, the leading Newspaper of the time period, even published a special Valentine's Day's greeting page in 1864 celebrating the Valentine tradition.

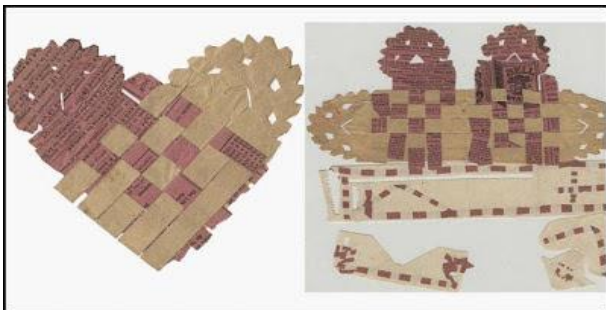
Recognizing that many soldiers sent letters and cards, to their sweethearts back home, Harper's weekly celebrated undying love on Valentine's Day during the Civil War with a special edition devoted to soldiers' love. Some soldiers could not read or write, and instead had very close friends pen love letters and make-shift cards to their loved ones. Most Civil War soldiers bought Valentine Cards from a sutler, who in addition to carrying supplies of boots and weapons, also sold stationery and greeting cards. Here's an example of a beautiful Civil War era Valentine titled 'MY LOVE':

*'Mid bugle's blast and cannon's roar,
And 'mid the battles angry flame;
'Mid clashing sabres red with gore,
I fondly breathe thy much-loved name.
I feel thee near at dead of night,
When I my vigil lone am keeping—
Thy image guards me, angel bright,
In dreams when wearied I am sleeping,
Each northward wind wafts on its breath,
To thee a yearling kiss of mine—
On glory's field or bed of death,
I live or die thy Valentine.*



During the War there were special valentines for soldiers and their sweethearts. Some showed couples parting ways. Others had a tent with flaps that opened to reveal a soldier. These were called a Window Valentine. Another Civil War novelty was the valentine that included a lock of hair. And another was the paper doll valentine that had a printed face and feet, with the figure dressed in cloth or paper. Many cards also had political and patriotic messages and imagery. Love letters between soldiers and their sweethearts have become collectors' items and family heirlooms, and remind us that love and romance is present in even the most gruesome circumstances.

Not all Valentines were a happy occasion to read however... One such Valentine is a surprisingly elaborate one, from a Confederate soldier named Robert King to his wife, Louiza. King used a penknife to cut through an envelope and a newspaper, then he wove them together into a heart shape. When opened, the card shows two figures crying. In a prophetic turn of events, the Valentine didn't reach his wife until nearly two months after the Holiday, on the same day that another letter was delivered to her home. The letter stated that King was killed in battle.



So, hold someone close this Valentine's Day, and remember that life is short, no matter how great a love can be.

Source: <http://justanotherstaticheart.blogspot.com/2013/02/civil-war-valentines.html>

News From Around the Camp



**Deepest Sympathy
On the Passing of
ROGER "BUTCH" HARRIS
(from Belleville IL)
January 14**

Butch suffered from a massive heart attack while driving his work truck for Waste Management and was unable to be resuscitated. He died at Gateway Regional Medical Center, Granite City IL.

Surviving him are his wife (Susan), son (Roger Jr.), daughter (Mary Emerson), six grandchildren, and parents (Rodger Harris and Mary McFalls).

Butch was a former Knight of Camp Dixon.

(The camp provided Susan a \$1,000 check with the condolence card.)



**WELCOME
ANDI KING
(from Highland IL)
January 14**

... as the newest member of the Knights and Ladies of the Golden Circle, auxiliary to Camp Dixon.

Andi is married to Matt and is very proud of her daughter, Kourtney, and



**Request prayers for
ADJUTANT GALE RED
(from Belleville IL)
January 14**

Gale received bad news that his cancer has morphed, is more aggressive, and has spread into his bones. Today, to find out if his cancer has changed to PLL, he underwent a bone marrow biopsy and received a PET scan on January 20. Results to arrive on February 4.

Please keep him in your prayers!

CAMP CALENDAR OF EVENTS



FEBRUARY

- 11 6:30 CAMP MEETING**
- 12** Lincoln's Birthday
- 14 Valentine's Day**
- 17** Presidents' Day
- 22** Washington's Birthday
- 26** Ash Wednesday

MARCH

- 8** Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 11 6:30 CAMP MEETING**
- 17 St. Patrick's Day**
- 20** First Day of Spring

APRIL

- 1** April Fool's Day
- 5** Palm Sunday
- 10** Good Friday
- 12** EASTER SUNDAY
- 14 6:30 CAMP MEETING**



FEBRUARY

- 3** CARSON LEONARD (Ingraham IL)
- 14** PHIL TATE (Mascoutah IL)
- 17** WELLINGTON "HAM" LEMMER (Millstadt IL)
- 20** JIM LUMMA (Jerseyville IL)
- 20** RALPH OELSCHLAGER (Belleville IL)



CAMP DIXON LEADERSHIP

Commander	John Douglas Stanton	Cell 618-610-6464
1 st Lt Commander	Matthew James King	Cell 510-213-1972
2 nd Lt Commander	Ronald Joseph Lakin	Cell 618-420-6358
Advisor to the 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