

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



DECEMBER 2020

**MERRY CHRISTMAS, LADIES & GENTLEMEN,
PLEASE BRING YOUR CHRISTMAS SPIRIT TO THE
CAMP MEETING -- DECEMBER 8, 2020 -- 6:30 p.m.
Shiloh Assembly of God Church in Shiloh**

**(To protect yourself and others at the meeting,
please wear a mask or face covering.)**



PROGRAM INFORMATION

PRESENTATION: Enoch Deason in TN
PRESENTER: Commander John Stanton
REFRESHMENTS: Compatriot Phil Tate

CAMP MEETINGS

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

Shiloh Assembly of God Church
4035 Lebanon Avenue
Shiloh, Illinois 62221

(Parking lot available next to the church)

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 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 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.



**PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR ONLY
MEMORIAL EVENT THIS YEAR
THE WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY
DECEMBER 19**



A Blessed, Healthy and Holy Merry Christmas



**WE CARE! PLEASE CALL GALE OR MIKE
AND KEEP US NEWS-INFORMED ...
if you or a family member is ill, has an emergency,
health or family issues, or needs assistance.
Adjutant Gale Red, Cell 618-622-8949
Chaplain Mike Biekert, 618-972-8190**

FROM THE COMMANDER

ATTENTION TO ORDERS: Greetings to each and every faithful member of the Lt. George E. Dixon SCV Camp #1962. The officers of your camp hope that each and every family celebrated a joyous Thanksgiving holiday. We would also like to wish our members a blessed Christmas season and a prosperous New Year. I hope to see each and all at our December muster. With the election behind us, the prospects for our organization cannot be predicted with any hopeful forecast. There can only be assigned unto us a due vigilance before God in humble attitudes of prayer. Whatever the future holds for us and for our nation, all must be devoted to their diligence to this supplication. I pray that all are well and in good health. If any of our members are not, please let your officers know and the camp will be informed of such. As a group of like-minded brothers and sisters we can surely offer our prayers and concerns for the health of each other. Pray I see all at the December muster. Until then, GOD Bless.

Confederately,

John Stanton

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CAMP DIXON MEETING MINUTES ~ NOVEMBER 10, 2020 Muster

The members and friends of the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp # 1962, S.C.V., conducted their monthly muster at 6:37 p.m. on November 10, 2020 at the Shiloh Assembly of God Church, Shiloh IL; this being the 9th Muster of the year 2020.

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

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. Commander Stanton 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 (16) (Adjutant Gale Red). *Please ensure everyone signs the muster roll.*

Those present included: Janice Beasley, Walter "Mike" Biekert, Eric Funkhouser, Johnny Kicklighter, Ron & Alexis Lakin (guest), John & Jane McKee, Ralph Oelschlager, Gale & Sharon Red, John Stanton, Phil Tate, Drew, Nick & Steve Wilson.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 13, 2020 MEETING MINUTES (Commander Stanton). The minutes were approved by a motion to accept by Drew Wilson and seconded by Steve Wilson with a unanimous all-hands-agreed vote.

FINANCIAL REPORT (Adjutant Red). Reported the financial report of \$5,846.48. Two checks came out (not yet reconciled) for printing the newsletter and stamps. The report was approved by a motion to accept by Mike Biekert and seconded by Ralph Oelschlager with a unanimous all-hands-agreed vote.



GROUP PHOTO

(L-R) (Row 1) Ralph Oelschlager, Drew & Steve Wilson, Jane McKee,
Ron & Alexis Lakin, Janice Beasley (with R. Lee), and Gale Red

(Row 2) Phil Tate, Eric Funkhouser, Nick Wilson, John McKee, Mike Biekert, and John Stanton

(Row 3) Phil Tate, Matt King, and John McKee

Photographer: Sharon Red

CAMP DIXON MEETING MINUTES ~ NOVEMBER 10, 2020 Muster (cont'd)

COMMUNICATIONS

HEALTH ISSUE OF JIM FULTON, SAWYERVILLE IL (JIM LUMMA'S COUSIN) (Adjutant Red). I received a note from Jim Fulton's wife, Carolyn letting me know that Jim has been moved to a care facility with hospice. He is in liver failure and not expected to survive much longer. Please remember Jim in your prayers. *(Jim is no longer a Camp Dixon member. He got upset because he wasn't listed as a veteran and quit.)*

UPDATE ON COMPATRIOT J. C. GIDEON (Adjutant Red). He still isn't back to good health and is fearful of COVID so he won't yet join us at camp meetings.

UPDATE ON COMPATRIOT HAM LEMMER (Adjutant Red).

- (Adjutant Red) Mike, were you able to reach him?
- (Chaplain Biekert) Unable to make contact ~ only got voice mail.
- (Adjutant Red) Please send a letter to him.

UPDATE ON LADY JANE McKEE (Adjutant Red). Jane, glad to see you.

UPDATE ON LADY CHRIS KICKLIGHTER (Compatriot Johnny Kicklighter). Chris has good and bad days with her chronic condition of fibromyalgia. Please pray for her.

UPDATE ON COMPATRIOT JACK SANDFORD (Adjutant Red). Doing well ~ back to work.

MARY WILSON WILL CELEBRATE HER 60TH BIRTHDAY ON NOVEMBER 22 (Compatriot Steve Wilson). In lieu of no birthday party due to COVID, asking you and friends to drive by our house and beep your horn in celebration. *(The camp will send her a greeting card.)*

HECKER CAMP CHARTER (Commander Stanton). The Hecker Camp is afraid the Senate will take away their charter due to their support of our Confederate battle flag.

- (Adjutant Red) The Dems are working to have all the SCV veterans exhumed and moved from National Cemeteries
 - Recommend flying the First National flag and not the battle flag.
 - Things are getting very bad ~ looking to stamp out the SCV and all heritage organizations. Mr. Biden has not been shy to reverse all the actions completed by President Trump.
 - Please do not get specific about your anti-feelings because they are looking to blacklist those who supported President Trump. We are not supposed to be political at this meeting but pray that God will help with the election outcome.

OLD BUSINESS

DONATIONS FOR VETERANS HOME IN ANNA IL (Commander Stanton). Unfortunately, several people forgot about it. If you did not have the opportunity to help the vets, please do so tonight. See Gale Red. Let's collect your gifts or cash that we can help make things a bit brighter for the residents there. We will send the donations to the Vets Home next week in time for Thanksgiving. Jim Lumma and I will take the collections to Anna. Received \$500 from an anonymous camp donor. Please give your donations to Gale.

NEW BUSINESS

FOR USE OF CHURCH POWER (Commander Stanton). Please put a dollar or two in the Kepi on the refreshments table. *(Collected \$29 ~gave \$20 to Mike ~ \$9 in kitty)*

CONFEDERATE SILVER DOLLARS DRAWING FROM THE HAT (Compatriot Phil Tate). Someone in West Tennessee made these coins ~ they were for sale on line and thought everyone would like one of most of the generals. *(thank you for thinking of us, Phil.)*

CIVIL WAR UNIFORMS/EQUIPMENT (Compatriot Ralph Oelschlager). Ralph used to be a reenactor with Harris Young (a charter Camp Dixon member who passed away on September 29, 2017). Ralph will no longer reenact, so he brought in some uniforms and equipment for sale. Everyone was pleased to see and make some purchases

CAMP DIXON MEETING MINUTES ~ NOVEMBER 10, 2020 Muster (cont'd)



Ron & Lexy

REFRESHMENTS: 2nd Lt Commander Ron & Mrs. Alexis Lakin brought pulled pork sandwiches, potatoes, green beans, and beverages. Thanks, Lexy and Ron, for taking such good care of us.

PRESENTATION: A Power Point briefing on “The Last Confederate Prisoner” was presented by Assistant Adjutant John McKee.

Synopsis of Presentation

The presentation was an exploration of people imprisoned after the War because of their Confederate activities. After Lee's surrender, the popular conception of the treatment of former Confederates was that they were allowed to return home, upon taking an oath of loyalty to fulfill amnesty requirements. However, several notable people were arrested, chiefly Jefferson Davis, and were held several months or years after the war. One was even charged for wartime activities more than 13 years after the war's end. However, the main charges followed the pattern of War Crimes, participation in the Lincoln Assassination, Piracy, or Treason. While the number of people surveyed is extensive, the account given is not exhaustive, as even states prosecuted people after the war. The U.S. Military tribunals prosecuted 4,271 people, both soldiers and civilians, during the war and after.

While the Union prisons were slow in releasing prisoners, the condition of release included taking the Loyalty Oath. However, some prisoners were civilians, or “State Prisoners” who may have been Union citizens who protested the war. Their status took longer to resolve. Prison conditions ranged from humane to hellish, with Fort Warren being the best to Fort Jefferson being the worst.

In addition to the eight charged and punished in the Lincoln Assassination, two others were also charged, but not convicted: George Gayle, an Alabama lawyer who had offered a bounty for Lincoln's Assassination, and John Surratt, who was captured and tried in a civilian court. Both were acquitted, with Gayle in October 1865 and Surratt in November 1868.

War crimes covered murder, rape, and other conduct not consistent with the rules of war. Guerrillas Champ Ferguson and Henry C. Magruder. Both men were convicted and hanged in October 1865 – months after the last surrender of Confederate forces in North America. Captain Wirz and Captain Duncan were convicted for the conditions at Camp Sumpter (Andersonville prison), while Capt Gee was acquitted for his command of Camp Salisbury, NC. Duncan escaped custody in August 1867. In addition, four men were convicted for their participation in the so-called “Northwest Conspiracy” in Chicago, involving freeing POWs at Camp Douglas, Chicago, IL. Four were convicted (one of whom already escaped), one committed suicide, one had charges dropped due to health (insanity), and two were acquitted. One other was not tried but held as a witness. Two of those convicted were paroled later in 1865. The remaining convict, Col Grenfell, escaped from Fort Jefferson in March 1868, and was presumed drowned.

Charges of Treason were applied against senior leaders of the Confederate government and armed forces. Included were Jefferson Davis and his cabinet, members of the Confederate Congress and Judiciary, and a few state governors. However, the initial charges tried to tie them to the Lincoln Assassination, but no evidence or testimony could be found. Proving treason alone became more difficult as their goal was secession, not the overthrow of the US Government. Despite securing indictments from Federal grand juries in Norfolk, VA, and Baltimore, MD, the charges were never brought to court, and prisoners were released between September 1865 and May 1867. All had to take the Oath, and in the case of C.C. Clay and Davis, post bail. However, had the treason trials proceeded and secured convictions, the extent of seeking and punishing Confederates may not have stopped with those arrested, unless the Supreme Court overruled them.

Piracy referred to the unlawful seizure of vessels at sea, plus other criminal acts. In December 1865, Raphael Semmes was arrested and held in confinement first at the New York Navy Yard and later at Washington, DC. He was later acquitted in April 1866. John C. Brain was arrested for murder stemming from the seizure at sea of the steamship *Chesapeake*. He was held in confinement in a civilian prison from September 1866 to March 1869, without trial ever taking place. Charges were dropped due to Presidential amnesty offered to all former Confederates. From this Brain would give several public lectures as the “Last Prisoner of the War.” However, another member of his crew, Henry A. Parr, was arrested for the same crime in June 1878, but had the charges dropped later in September. According to E. Thomas Wood, this would qualify Parr as the last Confederate prisoner. Complicating attempts at prosecution were the various presidential proclamations for amnesty (issued in a series, gradually increasing the scope of those who can claim it), and the end of martial law and the return to civilian courts in areas “formerly under rebellion.” Also, Johnston's Parole, taken by various Confederate soldiers and sailors since April 1865, assured no prosecution as long they remain law-abiding.

Identifying the last Confederate prisoner will require stipulating the criteria, such as crime, circumstance of capture and release, confinement and parole, and timing. Davis was the last one held for Treason, while Brain was held for Piracy. Grenfell was the last “war criminal” in confinement until his escape, but could have waited a year and possibly been released along with Mudd, Arnold and Spengler in March 1869 as one of President Johnson's final acts while leaving office. But the following decade would see one more prosecution, one more acquittal of the last Confederate, Henry Parr.

BENEDICTION: Chaplain Biekert delivered the benediction.

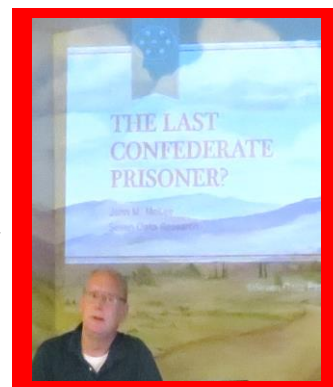
ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, December 8, 2020, at the Shiloh Assembly of God Church.

- **Presenter:** Commander John Stanton. **Presentation:** Enoch Deason in Tennessee
- **Refreshments:** Compatriot Phil Tate.

Respectfully submitted,

Gale F. Red
Adjutant



John McKee

The Death of Jefferson Davis - December 6 1889

By: Calvin E. Johnson, Jr., 1064 West Mill Drive, Kennesaw, Georgia 30152



**The Christmas Season of 1889, was a time of sadness in Dixie.
Hundreds of thousands of people came to remember and pay their last respects to Jefferson Davis
in the crescent city of New Orleans.**

On December 6, 1889, Jefferson Davis died at the home of a friend. Do our young people who Davis was?

Jefferson Davis graduated from West Point Military Academy, served valiantly in the War with Mexico, was Secretary of War under President Franklin Pierce, elected US Senator from Mississippi and was the first and only President of the Confederate States of America. Davis also wrote the book, "Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government" at his last home in Mississippi.

Jefferson Davis, and wife Varina, found great contentment and peace at "Beauvoir," their beautiful Mississippi Gulf Coast Home. This is where he wished to die when his time came but it was not to be.

In November 1889, Varina attended to their home as Davis left for Brierfield Plantation to take care of family business. As he traveled through New Orleans, Davis was exposed to a cold rain that caused him a severe cold and bronchitis that was further complicated by malaria.

Milo Copper, a former servant of the Davis family, upon hearing of Davis' illness, made the long trip from Florida to New Orleans to be near Davis' side. As Cooper entered Davis' sick room, he burst into tears and fell on his knees and prayed that God would spare the life of Jefferson Davis and bless the family.

Jefferson Davis died between 12:30AM and 1:00AM on December 6, 1889. The news of his death hit the front page of many Southern newspapers. The praises and tributes read similar to that of a New Orleans paper that read:

"Throughout the South are lamentations and tears; in every country on the globe where there are lovers of liberty there is mourning; wherever there are men who love heroic patriotism, dauntless resolution, fortitude or intellectual power, there is a sincere sorrowing. The beloved of our land, the unfaltering upholder of constitutional liberty, the typical hero and sage, is no more; the fearless heart that beats with sympathy for all mankind is stilled forever, a great light is gone----Jefferson Davis is dead!"

The body of Jefferson Davis laid in state at the city hall of New Orleans, Louisiana, from midnight, December 6, 1889 to December 11th. The United States and Confederate flags hung from above and in the city hall that was covered with many flowers.

The church bells toiled as over 80,000 people lined the streets of New Orleans to pay their respects to a Southern legend. All schools and businesses were closed that day.

Those men who comprised the honor Guard for the procession to Metairie Cemetery included: the Army of Northern Virginia Association, the Army of Tennessee and the Washington Artillery. Metairie Cemetery would be a temporary burial place for Davis as he was moved in 1893, by funeral train to Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, Virginia.

The sad part of this story is that the United States War Department did not recognize Davis and the US flag was not flown at half-mast. The US flag was flown at half-mast in the South. Jefferson Davis was the only former Secretary of War that was not given the respect and honor by the United States Government.

Teach your children the true story of their American Heritage!

Source of information: The 1990, first quarter edition of the Southern Partisan Magazine. The magazine article, by freelance writer Mrs. Peggy Robbins, was entitled, "Jefferson Davis' Death."

Why I Am a Member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans

BECAUSE I have a deep sense of loyalty to my family and that especially includes my great Grandfather, who, as a private in the Confederate Army with no hope of recognition except that his sacrifice would be remembered by his family, gave his life in defense of his country, his home and those who would come after him.

BECAUSE I believe in the promise of the Man of Galilee, of life after death. As my great grandfather looks down upon me from the Valhalla of Confederate heroes, I want him to know that I am not ungrateful, that I remember and honor his bravery and sacrifice.

BECAUSE I have so much to be proud of in the Confederate Army. Its brilliant fight, under conditions of extreme privation, against an enemy overwhelming in numbers and equipment, so won the admiration of the world that 100 years later, a group of retired British Army and Navy officers organized the Confederate Historical Society of Great Britain, headquartered in London, to study its campaigns. In 1974, a group of Belgians organized the Confederate Historical Society of Belgium, based in Brussels, for the same reason and purpose. The Southern Skirmisher's Ass'n in England re-enacts battles of the War. Some members have to wear the Blue but typical of the sentiment, is one sturdy English Confederate who told a reporter: "...one Southern fighting man was worth two Yankees. I would never be anything but a Southerner."

No other army in history has been paid such a tribute by foreigners over a century after the war in which it was engaged. Are foreigners to admire and honor the valor of the Confederate soldier in my family while I remain indifferent?

BECAUSE I Love the South and I am proud to be a Southerner. I am proud of the culture, grace and elegance of the Old South, of our heritage of courage, honor, chivalry, respect for womanhood, patriotism, and of duty to God and country. I love the Confederate Flag and "Dixie" as stirring symbols of that heritage. I take pride in the earlier leading role the Old South played in the Revolutionary War, the drafting of the Constitution and the founding of the United States. I love the "Star Spangled Banner" and the Flag of the United States, and I served under that flag in World War II.

BECAUSE our Southern heritage has served our nation well since 1865. No section has surpassed the South in percentage of volunteers to defend our country in time of war. And, the Southern people, who lost everything in the War, and without government aid, had to pull themselves up by their own bootstraps, traditionally adhere to the free enterprise system with its liberty and opportunity for all as opposed to the dictatorship of the welfare state with its liberty and opportunity for none.

BECAUSE even today, some of our school books, movies, television programs and press falsely portray Southerners as rebels and traitors who fought to preserve slavery, misleading our children and millions of Americans ignorant of history. Since my family fought for the Confederacy, they thereby falsely malign my family and me.

BECAUSE there are even those who would ban "as offensive" the playing of Dixie and the display of the Confederate Flag for which so many Southerners shed their blood; who would dismantle all monuments to our Confederate dead; who would erase all honor to Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, Nathan Bedford Forrest, Wade Hampton, Jeb Stuart, and all our other Southern heroes. Their purpose is to destroy our proud heritage. As Winston Churchill said, "any people with contempt for their heritage have lost faith in themselves and no nation can long survive without pride in its traditions". Our enemies know this. At the same time of the movement to ban the display of the Confederate Flag, during the Vietnam War, we saw our American Flag spat upon, burned, and the flag of an enemy nation with whom we were at war, paraded through the streets of our Nation's Capitol.

BECAUSE I intend to defend my family's honor and remember the sacrifice of my Great Grandfather, Wilson L. Dykes, private in the Confederate Army, and because it is my patriotic duty to my country, I belong to the Sons of Confederate Veterans, a respected, non-partisan, patriotic organization dedicated to preserving our Southern Heritage for ourselves, our children, and our children's children, and to seeing that the history of the Confederate States of America and the war fought in its defense, is truthfully recorded.

I should also add that my membership is a pleasure because through the programs at SCV meetings I have become much better informed about the most fascinating War in our history, and through SCV social activities I have made many warm friendships, both locally and all over the country. Those of us who belong to the Sons of Confederate Veterans do so:

- "In testimony of our love, recalling deeds immortal, heroism unsurpassed."
- "With ranks unbroken, ragged, starved and decimated, the Southern soldier for duty's sake, undaunted stood to the front of the battle until no light remained to illumine the field of carnage, save the luster of his chivalry and courage."

We are determined that your glory be not forgot, as long as fame her record keeps.

A Confederate Soldier's Christmas



T'was the night before Christmas, he was all alone.
In a field or forest so dismal with weeds and some stone.
I had come down the chimney with presents to give,
And to see just who was not where he used to live.
I looked all about, a strange sight I did see,
No tinsel, no presents, not even a tree.

No stocking by mantle, just a left-behind family did stand,
Missing the loved one who went to a war-beaten land.
No medals or badges, or awards of any kind,
A sobering thought came to my mind.
For this place was different, so dark and so dreary,
The sad home of a missing soldier, now I could see clearly.

The soldier lay sleeping, silent, alone,
Curled up against a tree called his one-bedroom home.
The face was so gentle, the area in such disorder,
Not how I pictured a Confederate soldier.
Was this the hero of whom I'd just read
Curled up next to a tree, no warmth for a bed?

I realized the families that I saw this night,
Owed their lives to these soldiers who were willing to fight.
Soon round the world, the children would play,
And grownups would celebrate a bright Christmas Day.
They all enjoyed freedom each month of the year,
Because of the soldiers, like the one lying here.

I couldn't help wonder how many lay alone,
On a cold Christmas Eve in a land far from home.
The very thought brought a tear to my eye,
I dropped to my knees and started to cry.
The Confederate soldier awakened and I heard a rough voice,
"Santa, don't cry, this life is my choice.

I fight for Southern freedom, I don't ask for more,
My life is my God, my South, my corps."
The soldier rolled over and soon drifted to sleep,
I couldn't control it, I continued to weep.
I kept watch for hours, so silent and still.
And we both shivered from the cold evening's chill.

I didn't want to leave on that cold, dark night,
This Southern guardian of honor so willing to fight.
Then the soldier rolled over with a voice soft and pure,
Whispered, "Carry on, Santa, it's Christmas Day, all is secure."
One look at my watch, and I knew he was right.
"Merry Christmas, brave soldier, and to all a good night."



Please Join Us on the National Wreaths Across America Day on December 19, 2020

(a special day set aside to lay wreaths on veterans' headstones)

By Lady Sharon Red

For those of you who are unaware of the Wreaths Across America, or the man who started this wonderful tradition, here is some background information:

**Reference FOX News Sunday with Chris Wallace
Interviewing Morrill Worcester of the Worcester Wreath Company -- December 25, 2016**

The origin of "Wreaths Across America" started when Mr. Morrill Worcester made numerous wreaths and just didn't want to throw them away. He thought of Arlington and all those graves. When the cemetery approved, he and a dozen volunteers drove the wreaths down and laid them on the headstones. And so, it continued for years until a few Christmases back when an Air Force Sgt took a picture of the Arlington graves with the beautiful wreaths adorning each headstone and posted it on the internet ~ which went around the world.

Fox News was there next year as workers at the Worcester Wreath Company loaded up 5,265 wreaths and then they embarked on what could be called the world's longest Veterans Day parade – a 750-mile journey – at some point attracted more than a 100 vehicles. And when they got to Arlington, so many people wanted to participate. For years, Worcester paid for all of this out of his own pocket and he started Wreaths Across America sending hundreds to cemeteries and war memorials and across the country, but he will need help to reach his new goal – it's a tall order to decorate 2.7 million graves – but he would like to do it. He's going to keep doing it as long as he can work and knows his family will continue it. It will be here for a long time.

2016 was the 25th year Morrill Worcester had taken off on his Christmas wreath project. Then, more than 800,000 volunteers helped place more than 1.2 million wreaths on veterans' graves at all 50 states and overseas. And after going to Arlington, Morrill dropped by to say why this project is still growing over a quarter of a century: Morrill said: "I think it's America and what America needs to be. There are a lot of people who have roots in the military – they have veterans that have served. They want to spend a little time remembering those people and being at the cemeteries all over the country – just saying their names out loud and keeping their memories alive. I'm going to keep doing this as long as the Good Lord will let me – I'll do as long as I possibly can ... and then my family's behind me. They're going to keep on going – this will never stop. It's what the country's all about. We have to know where we've been and what we've been given in order to go forward in a meaningful way – what's been given to us -- so we can have what we have all down through the history of our country."

Camp Dixon has been participating in this effort for 7 years and are proud of it. We encourage as many of you that are available to show up and participate on Saturday, December 19, and remember our fallen who have given their brave lives for their country and the Confederacy – especially since the pandemic has not permitted us to meet for homecoming parades or memorials. THIS IS THE ONLY CONFEDERATE TRIBUTE WE WILL HAVE THIS YEAR.

It's a warm feeling you'll receive knowing you did this ... the right thing for them ... remembering and warming the hearts of all these soldiers on a cold day.

It will warm your heart truly and God will bless you always for your caring deed.

News From Around the Camp



**OCTOBER 26
GET-WELL WISHES
COMPATRIOT ANDY & LADY JANE NOVARA
(of Creal Springs IL)**

Andy had emergency carotid surgery. Then, both he and Jane got COVID. Their plans have changed to postpone wintering in Florida. Happy to say they are recuperating but need your prayers.

(The camp sent a get-well card.)

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY CONGRATULATIONS, CAMP DIXON COUPLES!

(The camp will send greeting cards.)



**DECEMBER 17
CHAPLAIN MIKE & LADY MARY BIEKERT
(of Belleville IL)
38th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**



**DECEMBER 19
ADJUTANT GALE & LADY SHARON RED
(of O'Fallon IL)
22nd WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**



**DECEMBER 22
COMPATRIOT AL & MRS. ROBIN WANDLING
(of Swansea IL)
30th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**



**DECEMBER 28
COMPATRIOT DWIGHT & MRS. NONA MOORE
(of The Villages, Florida)
52nd WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

CAMP CALENDAR OF EVENTS



DECEMBER

- 7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 8 **6:30 CAMP MEETING**
- 19 **WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA**
- 21 First Day of Winter
- 25 Christmas Day
- 31 New Year's Eve

JANUARY

- 1 New Year's Day
- 12 **6:30 CAMP MEETING**
- 18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

FEBRUARY

- 9 **6:30 CAMP MEETING**
- 12 Lincoln's Birthday
- 14 **Valentine's Day**
- 15 Presidents' Day
- 17 Ash Wednesday
- 22 Washington's Birthday



Hope you are
blessed with a
Merry, Healthy
and Happy
Birthday!

DECEMBER

- 11 DAVID HAAKE (Colorado Springs CO)
- 26 JACK SANDFORD (Brighton IL)
- 26 ARTHUR TULAK (Ewa Beach HI)
- 28 DREW WILSON (Moline IL)



CAMP DIXON STAFF

Commander
 1st Lt Commander
 2nd Lt Commander
 Advisor to the Commander
 Adjutant
 Asst Adjutant
 Chaplain
 Program Chairman
 Newsletter Editor/Cardmaster
 Sgt of Arms
 Door Greeter

John Douglas Stanton
 Matthew James King
 Ronald Joseph Lakin
 John Wayne Kicklighter
 Gale Franklin Red
 John Mitchell McKee
 Walter Michael Biekert
 Gale Franklin Red
 Sharon Marie Red
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