

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

# THE DIXON BLUE LIGHT NEWS

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

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

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

JANUARY 2020



**HAPPY NEW YEAR, MEMBERS, FAMILY & FRIENDS  
COME TOAST TO A YEAR OF GOOD HEALTH & PROSPERITY  
AT THE NEXT CAMP DIXON MEETING**

**Belle-Clair Fairgrounds**

**TUESDAY JANUARY 14, 2020 6:30 P. M.**



## FROM THE COMMANDER

Greetings loyal members of the Lt. George E Dixon SCV Camp #1962.

The officers of the camp would like to express their heartfelt wish that every member and their families enjoyed a memorable Christmas holiday. Also, that all would embrace a prosperous Nuen Jahre (New Year).

We hope that each member will continue to uphold the memory of their Confederate ancestor this year and to faithfully attend our camp's monthly meetings. I would encourage everyone to also think about attending the events that the camp conducts such as memorial observations and other special events that we attend. The image of our Johnnie Reb ancestor will always be your obligation to present a positive memory in the minds of the communities that we are assembled before. I am fortunate that I also have Union ancestors as well. This helps me when I am ever in a discussion about the war of northern aggression with individuals who express hostility towards the Southern soldier. At times when this encounter leans to what can only be described as anger at any defense of the South, I am able to show my pride, too, in my Northern family. It is then that I have witnessed individuals become a little more understanding of this war, and it offers one the opportunity to historically shed light on information about the (Rebel Soldier) that they have never heard of in our schools. The SCV is the only organization that is in a position to inform the general public of our mutual ancestor's plight during this nation's calamity. The officers of our camp greatly hope and pray for your continued support of our camp and look forward to seeing you monthly during this coming year. God Bless.

**Confederately,**

**John Stanton**

## THINKING OF YOU FAR AWAY

**Thank you for being a member and supporting Camp Dixon.**

**Jacob Bailey, Robert Gray, David Haake, Amzy Hibler,  
Hans Hendriksen, John Kruse, John Loper, John Massey, Dwight  
Moore, Steven Pike, William Presley, Dave Runells, Alphons Schoots,  
Arthur Tulak, and Richard Vaught**

## CAMP DIXON REMEMBERS



**KEVIN DUFFY**  
January 6, 1940-October 15, 2010

**PAT DORAN**  
May 31, 1939-September 7, 2011

**BRETT WARNER**  
September 29, 1960-March 21, 2012

**JAMES BENEDICT**  
July 18, 1947-October 27, 2012

**RON DORAN**  
July 14, 1940-March 24, 2015

**BILL BEASLEY**  
December 4, 1942-April 17, 2015

**C. F. MARLEY**  
April 9, 1921-February 17, 2016

**JOE LOPER**  
June 6, 1941-March 18, 2016

**VERNON DeSELMS**  
October 9, 1941-August 14, 2016

**HARRIS YOUNG**  
November 9, 1924-September 29, 2017

**RONNIE OTTINGER**  
August 3, 1951-November 8, 2018

**SAM BOOTH**  
December 28, 1942-February 24, 2019

**BOB HARDY**  
July 18, 1928-June 15, 2019



**\*\*\* NEXT CAMP DIXON MEETING \*\*\*  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2020 ~ 6:30 p.m.**

**Belle-Clair Fairgrounds Exposition Center**

**200 South Belt East, Belleville IL**

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

**PRESENTER: Lady Sharon Red**

**PROGRAM: Scrapbook of Camp Dixon**

**REFRESHMENTS: 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Cmdr Matt & Lady Andi King**

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

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
<b>From the Commander</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Thinking of You Far Away</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Camp Dixon Remembers</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Minutes: Camp Dixon Meeting, December 10</b>	<b>2-4</b>
<b>Wreaths Across America, December 13-15</b>	<b>5-8</b>
<b>News Around the Camp</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Calendar of Events ~ January Birthdays ~ Camp Leadership</b>	<b>10</b>

## **CAMP DIXON MEETING MINUTES ~ DECEMBER 10, 2019 Muster**

The members and friends of the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp # 1962, S.C.V., conducted their monthly Muster at 6:40 p.m. on December 10, 2019 at the Exposition Hall, Belle Clair Fairgrounds, Belleville IL; this being the 12<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.

**PRESENTATION OF THE SCV WAR SERVICE MEDAL:** Commander Stanton presented the SCV War Service Medal to Compatriot Eric Jan Funkhouser for his Vietnam service. Congratulations, Eric, for a job well done.



### **The SCV War Service Medal to Compatriot Eric Funkhouser**

Present (L-R) are Adjutant Gale Red, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Commander Ron Lakin, Commander John Stanton, (Eric), and Compatriots J. C. Gideon and Steve Wilson

**PROCEDURAL BUSINESS:** None.

**ROLL CALL (17) (Adjutant Gale Red).** *Please ensure everyone signs the muster roll.*

Those present included: Walter Mike Biekert, Conner Cowan, Craig Cowan, Walter Hall, Eric Funkhouser, J. C. Gideon, Johnny Kicklighter, Ronald Lakin and Alexis Rensing (guest), Matt King, Jim Lumma, Gale & Sharon Red, Bobby Samuel, John Stanton, Phil Tate, and Steve Wilson.

**MINUTES:** The November 12, 2019 meeting minutes were approved by a motion to accept by Johnny Kicklighter and seconded by Conner Cowan with a unanimous all-hands-agreed vote.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Adjutant Gale Red reported the financial report of \$7,020.48. An outstanding bill of \$155 will come out of this total and be reflected next month. The Financial Report was approved by a motion to accept by Walter Hall and seconded by Johnny Kicklighter with a unanimous all-hands-agreed vote.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

**PHONE/EMAIL TO COMPATRIOT "HAM" LEMMER (Adjutant Red).** Ham is suffering from two terminal cancers and was told this will likely be his last Christmas. I (as well as Chaplain Mike) was unable to contact Ham regarding our proposed Christmas dinner basket. However, Ham did acknowledge receipt of the newsletter. Propose we personally visit him at his Millstadt home to see what he prefers.

## CAMP DIXON MEETING MINUTES ~ DECEMBER 10, 2019 Muster (cont'd)



### GROUP PHOTO

**(L-R) (1<sup>st</sup> Row)** Bobby Samuel, Ron Lakin, Alexis Rensing, Matt King, Eric Funkhouser, Steve Wilson, Sharon & Gale Red  
**(2<sup>nd</sup> Row)** Jim Lumma, Craig & Conner Cowan, John Stanton, Phil Tate, Mike Biekert (Santa), and J. C. Gideon

*Photographer: Walter Hall*

### OLD BUSINESS

#### **ANNUAL WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14 (Adjutant Red).**

Please put this Saturday on your calendar to attend. It will begin at 10 am at the Alton Confederate Cemetery. We will then go to the Small Pox Island Monument and the graves of deceased members of our camp. At 10:00 the states will also place wreaths on graves. (We get these wreaths free but we bought an extra box.) It's going to be COLD, so dress warmly, NO UNIFORMS. Those who raised their hands plan to attend: John Stanton & Justin Ottolini, Matt King, Ronald Lakin & Alexis Rensing, Gale & Sharon Red, Phil Tate, and Steve Wilson.

#### **2020 REFRESHMENTS LIST & PROGRAM PRESENTATION LIST PASSED AROUND FOR SIGN-UP (Adjutant Red).**

**CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY OUTREACH (Adjutant Red).** Passed the hat and received \$138 ~ this X2 = \$276. Thank you for your generosity.

### NEW BUSINESS

**THANK YOU/CHRISTMAS CARD FOR COMPATRIOT AL WANDLING IS BEING PASSED AROUND FOR YOUR SIGNATURES ... WITH A \$50 LONGHORN RESTAURANT GIFT CARD (Adjutant Red).** Al is the manager of this Exposition Center and has graciously permitted us to meet here monthly (cost-free) for our meetings. Motion made by Phil Tate and seconded by Eric Funkhouser with a unanimous all-hands-agreed vote. Motion passed to give Al the \$50 gift card.

**THANK YOU TO J. C. GIDEON AND JANICE BEASLEY FOR COMING TO THE HECKER ENCAMPMENT/DINNER AT CREHAN'S (Commander Stanton).**

**VISUAL DISPLAY OF PERSONAL CIVIL WAR UNIFORMS BY 2<sup>nd</sup> LT COMMANDER RON LAKIN.**

## CAMP DIXON MEETING MINUTES ~ DECEMBER 10, 2019 Muster (cont'd)



**Steve Wilson**

### REFRESHMENTS

Steve Wilson provided chili, crackers, chips, and beverages.

Jim Lumma brought home-made cookies.

Thank you, Steve & Jim, for taking such good care of us.



**Jim Lumma**

### PRESENTATION

Adjutant Gale Red presented a power point briefing on "Child Soldiers in the American Civil War."

#### Synopsis

A remarkable number of young boys, and even some young girls, seventeen and younger, were involved in the American Civil War. It is estimated that between 250,000 and 420,000 young boys were in or with the military either as soldiers, drummers, fifers, powder monkeys, caring for animals, carrying messages or other tasks in both the Union and Confederate armies. It is also estimated that as many as 100,000 were fifteen or younger. Given the large number of young men in the war compared to the number of older ones, the war might have been more accurately called the "Boys War".

Adj. Red talked about the reason for the young boys joining, and how most of their reasons were the same as for older men. By and large, however, young boys joined the military to escape what they viewed as a dull life on farms, escaping bad home situations, and being able to come home a hero. Almost none imagined that the conflict would drag on as long as it did or the absolute horrors of the war they would encounter.

He also discussed the methods of enlistment especially given that for the Union Army the minimum enlistment age was legally eighteen, while this was not a minimum age for the Confederate Army until 1862 though the legal age was regularly ignored. Frequently, recruiters looked the other way to fill their quotas or the boys would lie about their age. Young boys, as young as 8 years of age, would join a unit in a supposedly non-combatant role only to find themselves picking up a weapon to defend themselves or the comrades. Many would eventually become a full soldier.

Adj. Red also discussed the horrible lack of proper nourishment, clothing, shelter, and the unending marching, even death, injury or capture faced by the young boys. He discussed the stringent punishments for the young men who would carry out offenses typical of young children.

Then he showed many pictures and gave information of child soldiers in both armies, and gave examples of how many of them performed valiantly when faced with combat and the horrors of war.

Finally, he explained that the hardships faced by children during the war wasn't just by those in the military, but hundreds of thousands in both the North and South as the very fabric of family and social culture were torn apart by the effects of the war. He asked the audience to try to image their own young children faced by the circumstances of military service and as civilians. Those were truly horrible years for the whole country.



**Gale Red**

### VISIT WITH A DENTON COUNTY TX HISTORICAL SOCIETY LADY (Compatriot Bobby Samuel).

He explained that he had gone with the intent on trying to see what the Society's position with regard to the attempt by some in the local community was regarding trying to have a Confederate monument removed. He described his meeting and discussion with one of the black ladies and of her openness to hearing about things she had not known. He had a very productive and positive discussion which may help lead to further positive dialogue on the matter.

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

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

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, January 14, 2020, 6:30 p.m., at the Belle-Clair Fairgrounds Exposition Center. Presenter will be Lady Sharon Red who will display a "Scrapbook of Camp Dixon." Refreshments will be provided by 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Commander Matt and Lady Andi King.

Respectfully submitted,

*Gale F. Red*  
Adjutant



# Wreaths Across America

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2019



(Lakeview Memorial Gardens, Fairview Heights IL) Gale and Sharon Red braved the 30-degree cold and placed wreaths on deceased veterans' graves.



Grave of Reagan Harris Young, Jr., Nov. 9, 1924-Sept. 29, 2017  
Placed by Gale Red

(Greenmount Catholic Cemetery, Belleville IL)



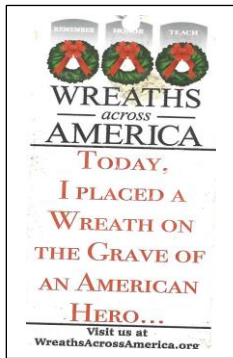
Grave of Lt. Clarence P. Muckensturm, Sept. 28, 1917-May 19, 1943  
Placed by Sharon Red



Grave of Robert Henry Muckensturm, June 3, 1919-Sept. 20, 1985  
Placed by Sharon Red



Grave of Kevin Duffy, Jan. 6, 1940-Oct. 15, 2010  
Placed by Gale Red



# Wreaths Across America

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2019

Rest easy, sleep well my brothers.  
Know the line has held, your job is done.  
Rest easy, sleep well.  
Others have taken up where you fell, the line has held.  
Peace, peace., and farewell.

"Thank you to all Sponsors and Volunteers who make it possible for Wreaths Across America to continue Our mission: REMEMBER HONOR TEACH..."  
*Wayne Hanson,*  
Chairman WAA Board  
This Remembrance Wreath is Proudly Made in Maine/USA by  
**Worcester Wreath.Com**  
for Wreaths Across America

**(Alton Confederate Cemetery, Alton IL)** Despite the miserably winter weather with a cold 21 degrees, wind, and snow, Camp Dixon was blessed with the attendance of the following members and friends:



Commander John Stanton  
2nd Lt Commander Ronald Lakin (with Alexis Rensing)  
Adjutant Gale Red (with Lady Sharon Red, photographer)  
Compatriot Steve Wilson  
Compatriot Jack Sandford  
Linda Miesel (United Daughters of the Confederacy)



Tombstone of 3d Sgt Joseph Pearson Julian  
*(only stone at the cemetery)*  
Ron Lakin, John Stanton, and Jack Sandford



Confederate Monument  
Gale Red (MC), Linda Miesel, Steve Wilson, Jack Sandford, and Alexis Rensing



Steve Wilson, Jack Sandford, Alexis Rensing, Ron Lakin, and John Stanton



Steve Wilson read  
"The Rebel Soldier"

**The Rebel Soldier**  
In a dreary Yankee prison  
Where a Rebel soldier lay  
By his side there stood a preacher  
E'er his soul should pass away  
And he faintly whispered  
Parson, as he took him by the hand  
Oh Parson, tell me quickly,  
Will my soul pass through the South land?

Will my soul pass through the South land?  
Through old Virginia grand,  
Till I see the hills of Georgia,  
And the green fields of Alabama?  
Will I see that little church house  
Where I pledged my heart and hand?  
Oh Parson, tell me quickly,  
Will my soul pass through the South land?

It was for loving dear old Dixie  
That in his prison cell I lie.  
It was for loving dear old Dixie  
In this Northern State I'll die.  
Will you see my little daughter  
And make her understand?  
Oh Parson, tell me quickly,  
Will my soul pass through the South land?  
And the Rebel soldier died.



**Alexis Rensing read  
"If Tears Could Build a Stairway"**

### **If Tears Could Build a Stairway**

If tears could build a stairway  
And memories were a lane  
We would walk right up to heaven  
And bring you back again.  
No farewell words were spoken  
No time to say goodbye  
You were gone before we knew it  
And only God knows why.  
Our hearts still ache in sadness  
And secret tears still flow;  
What it meant to lose you  
No one will ever know.  
But now we know you want us  
To mourn for you no more,  
To remember all the happy times  
Life still has so much in store.  
Since you'll never be forgotten  
We pledge to you today:  
A hallowed place within our heart  
Is where you'll always stay.



### **Confederate Monument**

**Jack Sandford, John Stanton, Ron Lakin, Alexis Rensing, Linda Miesel, Steve Wilson, and Gale Red**



### **Confederate Monument Entrance**

**Steve Wilson, Linda Miesel, Jack Sandford, Gale Red, Ron Lakin, Alexis Rensing, and John Stanton**

(Small Pox Island, Alton IL)



Small Pox Island Monument

Jack Sandford, Alexis Rensing, Ron Lakin, Steve Wilson, Gale Red, and John Stanton

**SUNDAY. DECEMBER 15. 2019**

(Walnut Hill Cemetery, Belleville IL)



Grave of William J. Underwood, 1833-1892  
Capt. Co. B, 3<sup>rd</sup> GA Cav, CSA  
Placed by Gale Red



Grave of William H. Harris  
1842-1907  
Placed by Gale Red



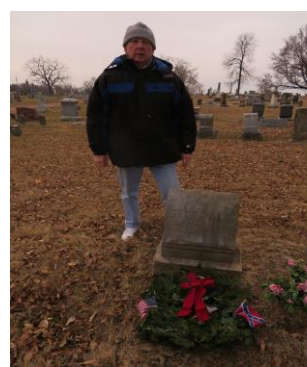
Grave of Henry E. Schrader  
Aug. 16, 1839-Oct. 31, 1920  
Placed by Gale Red



Grave of Ronald Doran  
Jul. 14, 1940-Mar. 24, 2015  
Placed by Gale Red



Civil War Union Soldiers' Memorial  
105<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Re-Dedication  
May 7, 2011



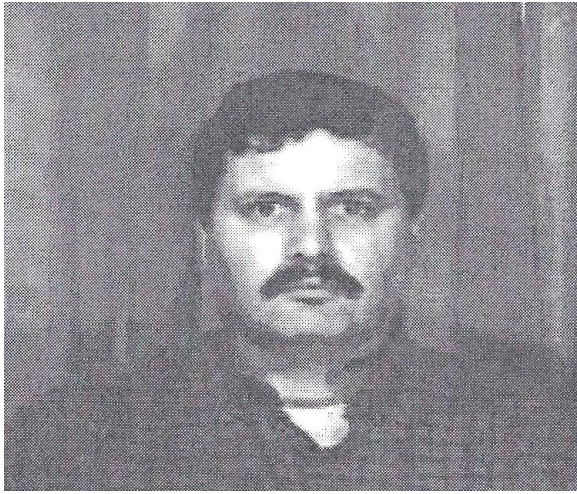
Grave of Hiram D. Anderson  
Placed by Gale Red

(Mascoutah Cemetery, Mascoutah IL)



Grave of Brett Forrest Warner  
Sept. 29, 1960-Mar. 24, 2012  
Placed by Sharon Red

## *News From Around the Camp*



**Best of Healthy Wishes  
To  
“Ham” Wellington  
(from Millstadt IL)  
December 13**

Gale and Sharon Red visited Ham at Memorial Hospital. He went in for a procedure, which was successful but his health is still guarded. He was in good spirits. Please say many prayers (or a rosary) for him.



**Surgery Success  
To  
Dave Runells  
January 10**

Dave will undergo left knee replacement surgery in Phoenix AZ. Please keep him in your prayers that it's successful, and he will be able to go home soon to Victorville CA.

*(The camp sent a get-well card.)*



**Congratulations  
To  
Johnny and Chris Kicklighter  
On their  
47<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary  
(Belleville IL)  
January 28**

The best to you, Johnny and Chris, on a long celebration of wedded bliss. Hope you are blessed with more happy years with the best of good health.

*(The camp will send a greeting card.)*

## CAMP CALENDAR OF EVENTS



### JANUARY

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

### 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



### JANUARY

- 1 JUSTIN OTTOLINI (Godfrey IL)
- 3 CHAPLAIN WALTER MIKE BIEKERT (Belleville IL)
- 9 DAVID RUNELLS (Victorville CA)
- 18 BOBBY SAMUEL (Carterville IL)
- 28 ROBERT GRAY (Wymore NE)



#### CAMP DIXON LEADERSHIP

Commander	John Douglas Stanton	Cell 618-610-6464
1 <sup>st</sup> Lt Commander	Matthew James King	Cell 510-213-1972
2 <sup>nd</sup> 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