

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



SEPTEMBER 2021

HOW WONDERFUL TO ENJOY AUTUMN AND ITS FALL BEAUTY

So, please delight in God's canvas while driving to the next
CAMP MEETING – SEPTEMBER 14, 2021
6:30 p.m.

Shiloh Assembly of God Church in Shiloh



PROGRAM INFORMATION FOR SEPTEMBER 14

PROGRAM

Fans in the Civil War Period

PRESENTER

Lady Anita "Jane" McKee

REFRESHMENTS

Compatriot Johnny Kicklighter

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.



**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 issue, 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 our SCV camp. The leadership of your camp remains grateful for your commitment to our unit. It is with a heartfelt gladness that we greet each attendee at our monthly muster. I am reminded at this crisis in leadership in our nation of my upbringing in days of my youth. My family came from poor farmers and coalminers. There was not much to inherit from any one of them upon their demise. But let me tell you that I am an inheritor of something I consider to be of an even greater legacy. In situations where a family lacks great financial resources there is a wealth in one's commitment to their God and in His word. As far back as I can recall I was told that there is only one thing that our foes can take from me and that was my word. The enemy might steal, rob or kill you, but only you can give away the legacy of your word. I have constantly tried to live by this mantra in my life. Let me tell you a story from our nation's civil war that relates to such a trait as I have related to you. During the Union Army's advance through Mississippi they burned and destroyed most all the plantations in the southern states. It was when they came close to the plantation owned by Jeff Davis that one of his slaves came up with a plan on his own. He had a pass to travel freely from Jeff Davis and he then undertook the journey to Richmond to see the confederate president. Upon his admittance to see the president, Jefferson Davis was quite confused to see his slave here in the capitol without his knowledge. The slave informed him that the Yankees were burning every plantation and farm in the region. He informed Jeff Davis that if he were to sign a deed for a bill of sale for Briarfield plantation to him his slave, that the Yankees might spare it. President Davis agreed and deeded the plantation to the slave. When he returned to the plantation at some time shortly thereafter the union forces arrived. The commander of the northern forces asked who owned this estate and the slave proudly presented the deed to the officer and told him that his master had sold it to him and that he was in sole possession of the property. The plan worked. The union forces left the area undisturbed. After the war's end Jefferson Davis returned to Mississippi and his now freed slave came to him and returned the ownership of the estate back to him in keeping with his word to do so. When I look at this story, I am reminded of how important this teaching of our forefathers was and the weight it bore upon all who lived under the umbrella of a Christian world view. It would have been quite understandable from this slave's perspective to have decided to keep the deed after years of slavery for just payment of wrongs done to him in the past. But he could not. His honor and his word were his bond. How I wish that today we were led by men with a character such as this humble freeman. Until next meeting, GOD Bless.

Confederately,

John Stanton

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CAMP DIXON MEETING MINUTES ~ AUGUST 10, 2021 Muster

The members and friends of the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp # 1962, S.C.V., conducted their monthly muster at 6:30 p.m. on August 10, 2021 at the Shiloh Assembly of God Church, Shiloh IL; this being the 8th Muster of the year 2021.

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

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

INVOCATION: Chaplain (Compatriot) 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: None.

PROCEDURAL BUSINESS: None.

ROLL CALL (21) (1st Lt Commander King). *Please ensure everyone has signed in.*

Those present included: Janice Beasley, Walter "Mike" & Mary Biekert, Eric Funkhouser, Bob Herr, Johnny Kicklighter, Matt King, Alexis Lakin (guest), Jim & Barb Lumma, John & Jane McKee, Gale & Sharon Red, Dale Rice, Jack Sandford, John Stanton, Phil Tate, and Drew, Nick and Steve Wilson.

APPROVAL OF JULY 13, 2021 MEETING MINUTES (Commander Stanton). The minutes were approved by a motion to accept by Drew Wilson and seconded by Jim Lumma with a unanimous all-voices-agreed vote.

FINANCIAL REPORT (Adjutant Gale Red). \$7,275.48 – represents dues of \$2,395 put into account – 70% will go to HQ. Appreciate payments but missing a few – most have promised to pay. The report was approved by a motion to accept by Drew Wilson and seconded by Steve Wilson with a unanimous all-voices-agreed vote.



GROUP PHOTO

(L-R) (Front Row) Mary Biekert, Barb Lumma, Alexis Lakin, Eric Funkhouser, Jane McKee, Jack Sandford, Janice Beasley with R. Lee, and Gale Red

(2nd Row) Jim Lumma, Steve Wilson, Matt King, Nick Wilson, Dale Rice, and John McKee

(Back Row) Steve Wilson, Phil Tate, Bob Herr, John Stanton, and Mike Biekert

Photographer: Sharon Red

CAMP DIXON MEETING MINUTES ~ AUGUST 10, 2021 Muster (cont'd)

COMMUNICATIONS

ANYONE KNOW OF SOMEONE WITH ISSUES OR PROBLEMS? (Adjutant Red)

- (Chaplain Biekert) Contacted J. C. Gideon – he is scheduled to go to the doctor.
 - (Gale Red) He can't open his eye, cannot drive, and is not doing well.

OLD BUSINESS

CANNON SHOOT IS SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 19, 2021 AT JANICE BEASLEY'S. People may also bring their firearms for target shooting but do not bring hard-point ammo. Mark your calendars and let Steve Wilson know that you are planning to be there – phone 314-497-0798. Bob Herr said he will be there at 1:00 pm. He will bring BBQ and plates/forks. Do bring your lawn chair and beverage and covered dish (potato salad, salads, and desserts).

- (Gale Red) Steve, you calling everyone for dish choice?

NEW BUSINESS (Commander Stanton)

COLLECTING FOR CHURCH POWER FOR CHAPLAIN BIEKERT. Please put a dollar or two in the dish on the refreshments table. Thanks. *(Collected \$33 – gave \$20 t Mike – leaving \$13 in the kitty)*

NEW CARD MASTER REQUESTED. Sharon Red has been our card master for the past 13 years and would like to pass that on to somebody else at the end of the year. She has also been doing the newsletter for us for the past seven years. She needs somebody to take over doing the cards for the birthdays, anniversaries, get-wells, etc. She will be glad to help train a replacement. Please volunteer.

- *Alexis Lakin is considering the position.*

NEW CAMP NEWSLETTER EDITOR REQUESTED. It's time for someone to step forward to take over the camp newsletter. Please contact Gale Red to talk about it – 618-622-8949.

- *Drew Wilson is considering the position.*

RESCHEDULING MEETING NIGHT TO A DIFFERENT DAY OF THE MONTH . Steve Wilson would like to discuss possibly changing the night of the meeting to another night. Was discussed and **the third Thursday appeared to be OK. The third Thursday of the month was approved** by a motion to accept by Gale Red and seconded by Steve Wilson with a unanimous all-voices-agreed vote. **The change won't start until Thursday, October 21.**

RECRUIT FOR NEW CAMP MEMBERS. It is time for everybody to look around and talk to people to find out if they might be interested in joining the SCV and our camp. We need come new members.

NEED SOMEONE TO BRING REFRESHMENTS ON SEPTEMBER 14 (Asst Adjutant John McKee). Janice will be out of town and needs a replacement.

- *Johnny Kicklighter stepped up and volunteered to bring refreshments to the September meeting.*

REFRESHMENTS: Compatriot Mike and Lady Mary Biekert provided pizza, noodle salad, pineapple upside cake, and refreshments. Thanks, Mary and Mike, for taking such good care of us.



Mary Biekert

CAMP DIXON MEETING MINUTES ~ AUGUST 10, 2021 Muster (cont'd)

POWERPOINT PRESENTATION: “Andrew Jackson Tucker at the Battle of Stones River” by Compatriot Steve Wilson.

The presentation was about Steve’s Confederate ancestor, his 3rd Great Grandfather, Andrew Jackson Tucker, in the Consolidated 44th Tennessee at the Battle of Stones River in Murfreesboro TN. He was born September 13, 1823 in Calloway County KY and died July 31, 1913 in Christian County MO. He was buried in Payne Cemetery near Nixa MO.

Steve and Mary visited the Stones River this year on August 1, 2, 3, and 4, and a living history demo on the 7th. In Murfreesboro, Steve enjoyed his three passions – cars, guitars, and stars and bars. He had his 1965 Starfire convertible and his 1966 98 convertible at the Oldsmobile Nationals – guitars by visiting Johnny Cash Museum – and Stars and Bars by tracing A. J. Tucker’s footsteps at the preserved sites (Hells Half Acre and the Slaughter Pen).



Steve Wilson, smiling about a December retirement

The Stones River Battle, located in the middle of TN between Nashville and Chattanooga, occurred December 31, 1862 thru January 2, 1863. Stones River was named after explorer and long hunter, Uriah Stone, who navigated the river in 1767. (A long hunter is an 18th century explorer and hunter who made expeditions into the American frontier for as much as six months at a time.)

The Confederates advanced at dawn on December 31, 1862. General Hardee struck first. Major General John P. McCown’s Division led the attack with Bushrod Johnson’s brigade behind them. 10,000 Confederates attacked in one massive wave catching the Union by surprise. The Union’s deceptive campfires and the inexperience of General McCown caused his division to leave a gap, a gap filled by divisions from his rear which included the 44th Tennessee A. J. Tucker was in. The General Hardee’s Confederates drove the Union back three miles to the railroad and the Nashville Pike by 10:00 a.m. Johnson’s Brigade advanced and executed short right wheel movements northward. Generals Sheridan and Negley were ordered to hold their position to rest the Union and form a new battle line along the Nashville Pike and railroad. The delaying action and cost to the Union was enormous. All three of Sheridan’s brigade commanders were killed or mortally wounded in four hours of fighting in a cedar forest surrounded on three sides. The carnage looked like the slaughter pens in the Chicago stockyards. The name stuck ... Slaughter Pen. Sam Watkins of the CS First Tenn. Inf. was amazed at the bloodshed. “I cannot remember of ever seeing more dead men and horses and captured cannons all jumbled together ... the ground was literally covered with blue coats dead.” It is said that ghosts of soldiers have been seen and that it’s 10 to 20 degrees colder than the surrounding park, and we experienced it. The battle in some books say there wasn’t a clear victory but it did not prevent the Union from marching on to Chattanooga and ultimately paved the way for Sherman’s March to the Sea.

Stones River had the highest percentage of casualties – on both sides. The principal commanders were: Major General William Rosencrans (Union) and General Braxton Bragg (Confederate). Total forces engaged: 78,400 (US 43,400, CS 35,000). Total estimated casualties: 24,645 (31.4%) or a little less than 1 in 3 were casualties – US 12,906 (1,677 killed – 7,543 wounded – 3,686 captured/missing – 29.7% and CS 11,739 – 1,294 killed – 7,945 captured – 2,500 captured/missing – 33.5%.

In the Stones River museum and bookstore was a framed quote of General Robert E. Lee: “I don’t believe we can have an army without music.” When the armies bivouacked only 700 yards from each other, their bands started a musical battle that became a non-lethal preview of the next day’s events. Northern musicians played “Yankee Doodle” and “Hail, Columbia” and were answered by “Dixie” and “The Bonnie Blu Flag.” Finally, one band started playing “Home! Sweet Home!” and the others on both sides joined in. Thousands of Northern and Southern soldiers sang the song together across the lines. As the placard stated, when the song finished, an uneasy silence lay thick on the night. For many of the Blue and Gray, it would be the last song they would ever hear.

In closing, Steve distributed a musical handout, played the ukulele while Mike Biekert sang, and everyone joined in singing “Home! Home Sweet Home!”



Steve & Mike

BENEDICTION: Chaplain Biekert delivered the benediction.

COMMANDER’S CLOSING REMARKS (Commander Stanton). Thank you for your great attendance and thank you, Gale, for being here. God be with you.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at the Shiloh Assembly of God Church.

- **Presenter:** Lady Anita Jane McKee. **Program:** Fans in the Civil War Period.
- **Refreshments:** Compatriot Johnny Kicklighter.

Respectfully submitted,

Gale F. Red
Adjutant

Camp Misery

Medicine was sparse at badly overcrowded Camp Butler

By Tara McClellan McAndrew (Wednesday, May 14, 2008)



An amputation kit used during the Civil War is in the collection of the Pearson Museum at the SIU School of Medicine, 801 N. Rutledge.

PHOTO BY ROLAND KLOSE

During the Civil War, Springfield had one of the state's largest soldier-training facilities: Camp Butler, located about six miles northeast of Springfield, west of the current site of Camp Butler National Cemetery near Riverton. The camp was established quickly but not well. According to the Camp Butler history (written by cemetery staffer Mabel Workman), officials announced on Aug. 2, 1861, that the camp would be established, and within three days 23 regiments had arrived. On July 1, 1862, a U.S. Army surgeon checking the camp reported that its barracks were "mere shells, single boards forming the sides and roofs; the sides very low . . . the roofs covered with tarred paper . . . they afford protection neither from storms nor heat." (Dr. J.C. McKee's report is in the Medical and Surgical History of the Civil War, Volume V, 1870.)

Camp Butler wasn't made to hold the large numbers of people who were dumped at its door. Five thousand men were there within weeks of its opening. The overcrowding, poorly built barracks, and extreme central-Illinois weather contributed to outbreaks of disease and deaths. By Aug. 21, just two-and-a-half weeks after the camp opened, a soldier had died — of "lung fever," according to the camp history. Camp leaders began to assemble a medical staff, including a surgeon, hospital steward, druggist, and nurses — who, the history says, had to be "plain women over the age of 30." The history notes, "Hoops were to be abolished and nurses were to be made walking spindles," in a regulation uniform consisting of a brown dress, pantalets "tight around the ankles," and black hat. For a little over a year, starting in February 1862 with the Union's victory at Fort Donelson, Tenn., when about 2,500 Confederate soldiers were shipped here, Camp Butler also served as a prison camp.

Prisoners started dying almost immediately. In less than a month, 148 prisoners were buried in a newly developed Confederate cemetery at the camp. The huge influx of POWs created an immediate need for more medicine. On March 1, camp surgeon Dr. Thomas Madison Reece sent the Medical Purveyors Office in Chicago a request for nearly every type of medicine available to hospitals. (The request is among his papers at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library.)

Among many things, Dr. Reece asked for ether (an anesthetic), 192 bottles of alcohol (a stimulant, general tonic, and mixer for other medicines), belladonna extract (for intestinal cramps), sulfate of magnesium (a laxative), blue mass pills (mercury-based pills, potentially toxic, for diarrhea or constipation), opium (for diarrhea or pain), and potassium iodide (for syphilis or wound cleaning). “The sickness among the prisoners has almost assumed the features of an epidemic,” said the March 10, 1862, Illinois State Register. “We learn that on the afternoon of Friday, no less than 9 deaths occurred, and in the previous days the daily average of mortality was 3 or 4.” Days later, 15 men died one Saturday, the paper reported. A severe, lingering winter increased the incidence of illness among the prisoners. “Sharp winds, cold rains for the 2 weeks past have produced colds, coughs and sore throats innumerable,” according to an account in the April 21, 1862, Illinois State Journal. It’s no surprise that, according to Dr. Reece’s reports, pneumonia and typhoid pneumonia were the most common causes of death that winter. Fatalities were such a problem, the camp’s director (who also contracted severe pneumonia) became worried about the cost of coffins and ordered a camp carpenter to construct them to save money, according to Lonnie R. Speer’s *Portals to Hell: The Military Prisons of the Civil War* (Stackpole Books, 1997). Other common illnesses, according to the Camp Butler history, were measles and “chronic diarrhea, erysipelas [a highly contagious and often fatal skin infection], remittent fever, continued fever and rheumatism.” The history adds, “Remedies prescribed by Dr. Reece . . . included: whiskey, three times per day, tonic pills, poultices, cod liver oil and flax seed tea.”

McKee, the surgeon who checked Camp Butler for the U.S. Army, arrived here on May 1, 1862, and wasn’t pleased. The stench was “horrid and sickening,” he reported, and the medicine supply was lacking. The camp’s six hospitals were “in a miserable sanitary condition,” McKee wrote. “The floors were filthy; deodorizing agents were not thought of; slops and filth were thrown indiscriminately around. The sick were crowded in wooden bunks; some on the floor, many without blankets.” McKee initiated a camp cleanup that, he said, resulted in far fewer fatalities the following month. While McKee was there, he reported, typhoid, pneumonia, and erysipelas “raged.” Treatment included ammonia, tonics, and stimulants. “One case . . . was saved by blistering the whole length of the spine with ammonia and mustard. Typhoid . . . was treated much in the same way, with the addition of oil of turpentine, of which I cannot speak too highly.”

By mid-June that year, 336 soldiers and prisoners were hospitalized, the largest number during Reece’s tenure, according to his records. Naturally he needed more medicines, so he sent another request to the Purveyor’s Office. This time, however, ugly government bureaucracy got in the way (the response is in Reece’s papers at the ALPL). On July 30, the office wrote that his request “should have been in duplicate.” The purveyor would not fill his order until he resent it the proper way, which delayed soldiers’ getting necessary treatment for who knows how long. How many soldiers died as a result? We’ll never know. (How much sense does it take to ship the desperately needed supplies and ask Reece to send the ridiculous duplicate later?) Overcrowding was still a problem at Camp Butler two years later. The barracks were holding twice as many soldiers as they had been built to handle, and contagious diseases, including smallpox and measles, were breaking out “at a fearful rate,” according to a Feb. 1, 1864, letter written by George R. Clark, a regimental lieutenant. (His letter is part of Reece’s papers.) He was writing officials to request that additions be constructed for the hospitals, which were bursting at the beams. At that point, more than 500 men were sick. We might know more about Camp Butler’s sick men and hospitals if it were not for an 1865 fire that destroyed its hospital office building and all hospital records. The camp served as a training camp and mustering-out facility until the end of the war and closed on June 19, 1866. There are 714 Union soldiers and 866 Confederates buried at Camp Butler National Cemetery.

Contact Tara McAndrew at TMcand22@aol.com.

Confederate Operations in Canada and New York

John W. Headley was a Confederate operative working out of Canada. In 1906 he wrote of the planned operation in Chicago in "Confederate Operations in Canada and New York."

These excerpts are from pages 226-230. Mr. Headley highlighted references to the "Sons of Liberty."

"On the 22d of July the Commissioners, with Captains Castleman and Hines, met, at St. Catharines, certain delegates from this Chicago conference, who reported that it was proposed to take decided action on the 16th of August, but expressed a fear that unless there was such movement of the Confederate forces into Kentucky and Missouri as would occupy the attention of the Federal military authorities, troops would be immediately employed and on hand to suppress any action attempted.

So it was agreed that another council should be held at London, Canada, on the 7th of August. When that conference was held, the representatives of the State and county organizations present insisted that there should be a further postponement until the 29th of August, the date of the assembling of the National Democratic Convention at Chicago. At Chicago they urged, and on that date, the vast concourse of people drawn together would be the best cover for their action, and it would be easy to concentrate a large body of reliable and determined men in aid of their design, without attracting attention or suspicion.

An earlier date than the 29th had been suggested by Hines and Castleman, but the point was yielded in deference to a communication received from the representatives of the "Sons of Liberty," which clearly indicated that they were beginning to regard the situation as a very grave one, and to feel profoundly the responsibility they had incurred."

"In August the garrison was largely increased at Chicago, and three thousand troops were placed on duty. This led to an apprehension that the Administration intended to interfere with the meeting of the Democratic Convention on the 29th of August, and this fact was used to stimulate the prejudice throughout the West and justify the assembling of a large body of men, outspoken in their determination to resist the possible outrage. There was thus furnished sufficient excuse for the county commanders of the Order of the Sons of Liberty to mobilize the members of their organization on the plea that they should attend the convention, and ought to resist any attempt to interrupt its deliberations. Mr. Vallandigham's representatives were furnished means for transportation, and had ample time to make proper distribution and explain to the more faithful and courageous county commanders why the rank and file should come to Chicago and resist any further attempt on the liberties of the citizens. These representatives were further urged to make provision for keeping reasonably in hand the delegations from the various counties; but it must be confessed that events fully justified the belief that some of the principal agents employed were lacking either in fidelity or courage, or in both.

In Canada there were less than one hundred Confederate soldiers, and to the discretion of some of these it was not altogether safe to trust the success of the enterprise. Sixty men were chosen for service at Chicago. Many of these men had escaped from prison under circumstances which illustrated their daring and fertility of resource. One of them, Lieut. George B. Eastin, was well known in Morgan's command as the hero of a desperate hand-to-hand combat with the Federal Colonel Hallisey, in which the latter was killed."

"On the 27th and 28th of August the Confederates detailed for this important service proceeded to Chicago, traveling in small parties and assuming the appearance and conduct of men attracted there by the political interest of the occasion. They stopped at places designated in advance, the greater part of them having been instructed to go to the Richmond House."

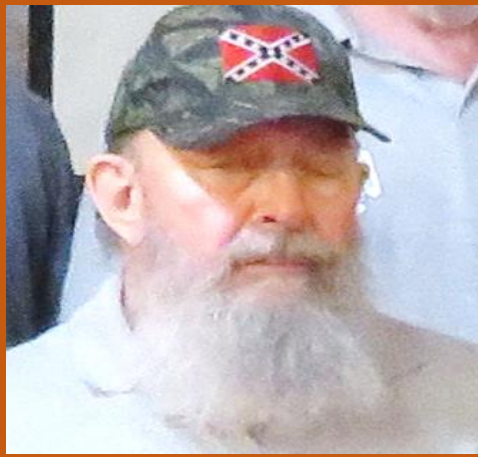
"Arms were ready, and information had been conveyed to the prisoners of war of our intention. Chicago was thronged with people from all sections of the country, and among this vast crowd were many of the county officers of the secret organization, on whom we relied for assistance. Most of those present at the Chicago conference were from Illinois; men well known in their own localities, whose influence, once they were committed to our plans by some overt act, would be of vast service. It was essential to the success of any undertaking for us to know definitely what armed forces the representatives of Mr. Vallandigham could provide. For this a meeting of the officers of the organization was held at the rooms of Hines and Castleman at the Richmond House the night before the convention, August 28, 1864.

The evening of the 29th of August came, but on the part of the timid timidity became more apparent, and those who were resolute could not show the strength needed to give confident hope of success. The reinforcement sent by the Administration to strengthen the Chicago garrison had been vastly exaggerated, and seven thousand men was the number rumor brought to the ear of the Sons of Liberty. Care had been taken to keep informed as to what troops came to Camp Douglas, but the statement made by Hines and Castleman, to the effect that only three thousand were present, did not counteract the effect produced by the rumor that the Federal forces there numbered more than double that number. When, therefore, a count was taken of the number of the Sons of Liberty on whom we could rely, it seemed worse than folly to attempt to use them. There were not enough to justify any movement which would commit the Northwestern people to open resistance, and not even enough to secure the release and control the organization of the prisoners at Camp Douglas as the nucleus of an army which would give possible relief to the Confederacy. The immediate influence of the vast convention assembled was exactly contrary to what had been expected.

With this state of things existing, it could not be safe or wise for the Confederates to linger in Chicago after the disappearance of the great throng which had assembled; it was necessary, therefore, to look beyond Chicago for a field of action. Captains Hines and Castleman accordingly proposed to the officers of the Sons of Liberty to furnish a detail of five hundred Northwestern men, to be accompanied and controlled by their own officers, and it was proposed with this aid to liberate the prisoners confined at Rock Island, and take possession both of that town and of Springfield. The two Confederate officers named had agreed that Castleman should take charge of these forces, and on the following evening assume quiet possession of the passenger train which left Chicago at nine o'clock for Rock Island, running through on schedule time, and cutting the wires with the hope of surprising and capturing that town. The garrison there had been weakened to protect Chicago, and Rock Island seemed an easy conquest.

Hines and Castleman had agreed that if the detail was furnished, some ten chosen Confederates should accompany the latter to Rock Island, where, if the prisoners were released, regiments should be hastily organized and equipped and thrown across to Springfield. Hines, with the remaining Confederates, about fifty, was to organize them into ten squads, mount them, cut the wires, destroy the bridges out of Chicago, on every road, and send to the outer world such telegrams of his own choosing as would account for the condition of things in Chicago. For the purpose of effect on the public mind, it was determined to inform the people outside of the responsibility of the Administration for the interference with the political convention in its deliberations, trusting that communication might not be reopened under a fortnight. But no one experienced in army life will be surprised to observe the difference between the soldier and citizen, even though the citizen may formerly have been a soldier. The contingent which we asked could not be promised us with any certainty, and all hope of success in this direction had to be abandoned, at least for the time. The Confederate officers accordingly deemed it wise to leave Chicago, as the safety secured by the presence of the convention was removed, and the agents of the Government had been aroused to greater vigilance and activity."

News From Around the Camp



**THINKING OF YOU BLESSINGS
FOR
COMPATRIOT J. C. GIDEON
(of Belleville IL)**

J. C. has been a constant Camp Dixon meeting attendee but since he has had eye problems, he hasn't been able to regularly come to our camp meetings nor effectively open his eyes. We hope he has received a better diagnosis/cure from the doctor, will be his happy healed self soon, and be with us soon. We miss him!

(The camp sent a thinking of you card.)



**GET-WELL WISHES
TO
LADY ANDREA KING
(of Highland IL)**

Andi underwent surgery to remove a tumor and long-time pain from her index finger. A biopsy was sent for diagnosis, and we pray the results will be benign. Please pray her pain has finally ceased, Do keep her in your prayers.



**HEALTH UPDATE
ON
ADJUTANT GALE RED
(of O'Fallon IL)**

In this photo, Gale is celebrating his 74th birthday. Now, it has been over two months since Dr. Jacoby, Gale's oncologist, placed him on dual chemotherapy treatments. However, he now is in A-Fib with a blood thinner and a high risk of strokes. Thank God he endures and is tolerating the chemo minus a good appetite and being very tired. Thank you for continuing to keep him in your prayers.



**HAPPY DAYS
GALE'S OLDEST DAUGHTER, JENNIFER ("JennDee")
VISITING SEPTEMBER 1-6, 2021
(of Gilbert AZ)**

It's been 4 years since he's seen his daughter, JennDee. She's sweet, beautiful and a welcome sight to see. Happy days are truly here since we're having a special beef wellington dinner tomorrow night for JennDee and inviting Matt and Andi to meet her.

CAMP 2021 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



SEPTEMBER

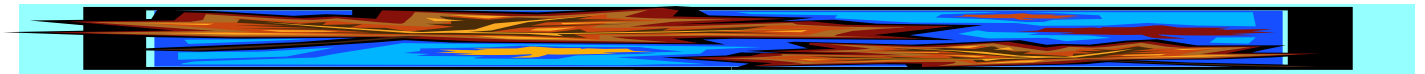
2 V-J Day (1945)
 6 Labor Day
 14 **6:30 CAMP MEETING**
 17 POW/MIA Recognition Day
 18 U. S. Air Force Birthday (1947)
 19 **Cannon Shoot (Beasley's)**
 22 First Day of Autumn

OCTOBER

11 Columbus Day
 18 U. S. Navy Birthday (1775)
 21 **6:30 CAMP MEETING**

NOVEMBER

2 Election Day
 7 Daylight Savings Ends
 (set clocks back 1 hour)
 10 U. S. Marine Corps Birthday (1775)
 11 Veterans Day
 18 **6:30 CAMP MEETING**
 25 Thanksgiving Day



SEPTEMBER

6 WALTER HARRIS (Glen Carbon IL)
 7 GORDON HAYES (Granite City IL)
 15 RON LAKIN (Freeburg IL)
 16 DWIGHT MOORE (The Villages FL)
 22 MATT KING (Highland IL)
 30 JOHN STANTON (Godfrey 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
 Asst 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
 Stephen Dean Wilson
 Eric Jan Funkhouser
 VACANT

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