



Gen. Thomas C. Fletcher Camp 47 NEWSLETTER

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is a fraternal organization dedicated to preserving the history and legacy of heroes who fought and worked to save the Union. Organized in 1881 and chartered by Congress in 1954, we are the legal successor to the Grand Army of the Republic.



Camp Commander Doug Roussin

From Commander Roussin

The year has been a slow start for our Camp. Due to weather related conditions, we had to cancel our meeting in February. I hope that all members of our Camp has avoided the virus and are safe and healthy. Both Kathie and I have had our shots and are staying healthy. But it is my sad duty to report that we lost our oldest member to the Virus. Donald Roussin, Sr. (father to Brother Donald Roussin, Jr. and my brother) passed away on January 2, 2021.

Our April activities will include JROTC awards in Farmington and Fredericktown. On April 11, the Camp will have a ceremony in Hillsboro to honor the memory of Leonard Wright, a Charter member. And don't forget the tractor parade in De Soto, April 24.

It is hoped that as spring comes the Camp will have an opportunity to participate in many activities that were canceled last year.

Happy Easter to all.

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Meeting Reminder!

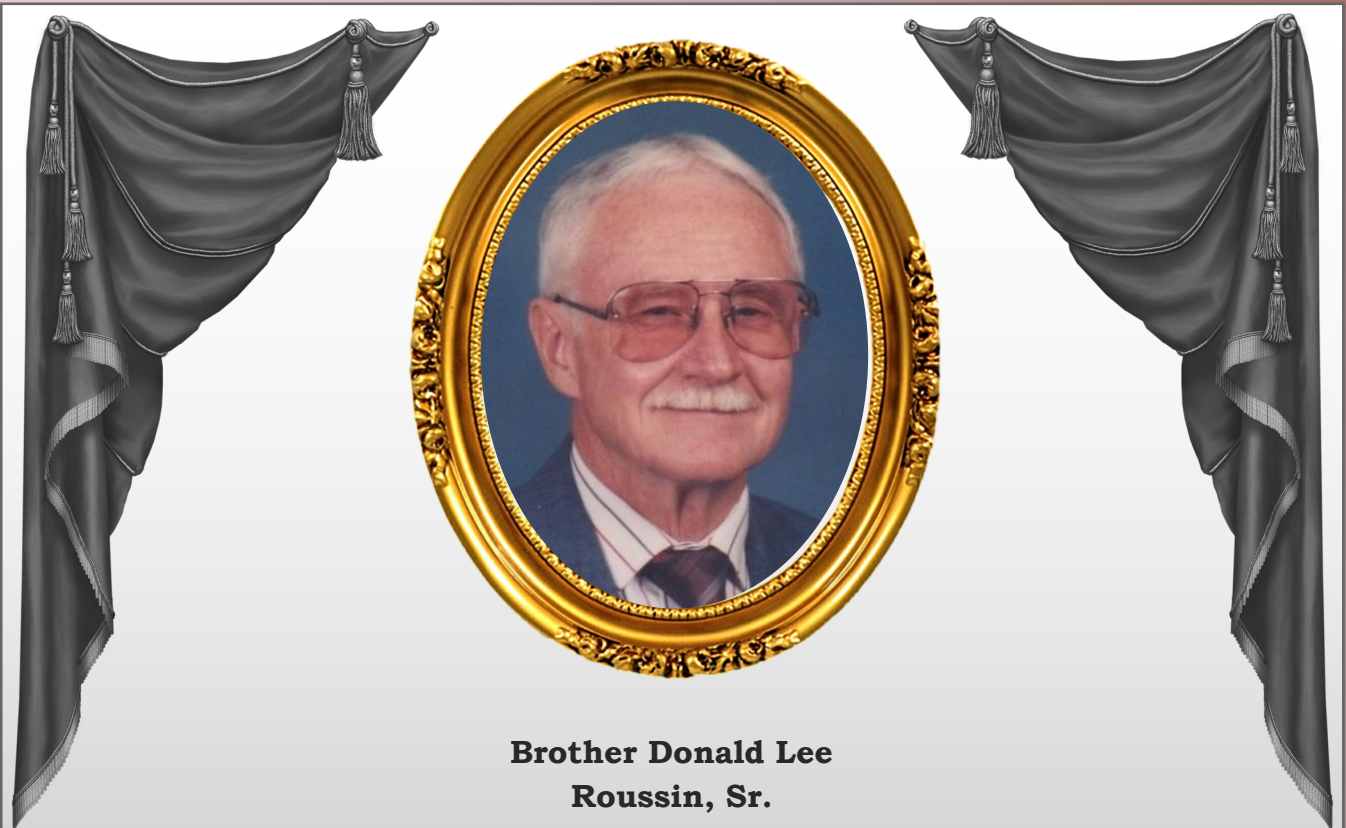
Next meeting will be a dinner meeting at Café 21, 48 Jefferson Square, De Soto. Arrive at 5:30 for 6 p.m. dinner. Dress out.

Consider Life Membership in the SUVCW!

You will be exempt from National and Department dues. [Details here!](#)



**What does a French science fiction author, President Grant, and Shirley McLaine have to do with each other?
See page 12.**



**Brother Donald Lee
Roussin, Sr.**
(1931 — 2021)

Donald Lee Roussin Sr., 89, of Ellisville died Jan. 2, 2021, in Ballwin. Mr. Roussin served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He obtained his bachelor's degree from Southeast Missouri State and his master's degree from Webster University, and taught in the Lindbergh School District until his retirement. Born July 26, 1931, in De Soto, he was the son of the late Cecil and Goldie (Sanders) Roussin.

He is survived by his wife: Bonnie (Hoyt) Roussin of Ellisville; four children: Donald (Mary Ellen) Roussin Jr. of Maryland Heights, Jennifer (Craig) Hoover of Ballwin, Charles Roussin of Brooklyn, N.Y., and Lisa (Michael) Dean of Cumming, Ga.; a brother: Doug (Kathie) Roussin of De Soto; a sister-in-law: Sherryl Roussin of Fenton; and six grandchildren: Hope Dean, Austin Dean, Natalie Hoover, Landon Hoover, Joe Roussin and William Roussin. He was preceded in death by an infant child; and a brother: Dean Roussin.

We shall meet but we shall miss him.
There will be one vacant chair.
We shall linger to caress him
While we breathe our ev'ning prayer.
When one year ago we gathered,
Joy was in his mild blue eye.
Now the golden cord is severed,
And our hopes in ruin lie.

At our fireside, sad and lonely,
Often will the bosom swell
At remembrance of the story
How our noble Willie fell.
How he strove to bear the banner
Thro' the thickest of the fight
And uphold our country's honor
In the strength of manhood's might.

True, they tell us wreaths of glory
Evermore will deck his brow,
But this soothes the anguish only,
Sweeping o'er our heartstrings now.
Sleep today, O early fallen,
In thy green and narrow bed.
Dirges from the pine and cypress
Mingle with the tears we shed.

"The Vacant Chair" - George F. Root

**Letter from Thomas Fletcher
on the Capture and Release of Soldiers from the 50th Mo. Infantry**

October 23, 1864

Hd Qrs 47th Regt Mo Inftry
DeSoto Oct 23d 1864.

Colonel,

I have the honor to state that several enlisted men of Companies "A." "E" "F" "G" "H" & "I" of this Regiment and a number of men of the 50th Regt. Mo Vol Infaty. ~~who~~ were captured by the command of the Rebel General Price during the recent raid in this state and for want of means on the part of the rebels to transport or keep them were paroled and are now at Benton Barracks

I respectfully ask that these men be ordered to report to their respective commands. They not having been delivered at any of the places of exchange mentioned in the cartel nor exchanged or paroled upon any agreement between the commanding officers of the contending armies, nor paroled through an officer.

I am very Respectfully your
obt servt

Tho' C Fletcher

Col 47" Mo Infaty

& Recr officer 50" Mo Inftry.

Col N B. L. E. Bonneville
Comdy Benton Barracks.

Benton Barracks was in
St. Louis.

Does anyone have any
more information around
this event they would like
to share?

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Tho' C Fletcher
Col 47" Mo Inftry
& Recr officer 50" Mo Inftry.

B. L. E.
Col N B. L. E. Bonneville
Comdy Benton Barracks.

News from the Fletcher Camp

Some of our members have been running around the country. Here are some examples.

With Spring almost on us, it's hard to believe this wasn't that long ago.

This is from Doug Roussin's yard.



Sumner Hunnewell traveled to Washington, Mo., to swear in the Wilhelmi Camp in January.

JOHN H. "JACK" CHANCE

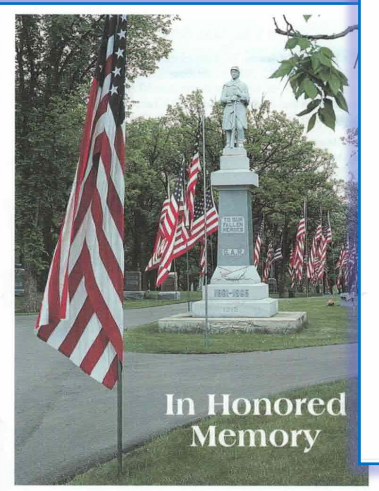
John H. "Jack" Chance, 83, Columbia, MO passed away Friday, February 12, 2021 at the Boone Hospital Center in Columbia, MO. He was born November 30, 1937 the son of the late F. Gano and Anna Lee (Toalson) Chance. On January 30, 1976 he was united in marriage to Linda (Barto) Chance.

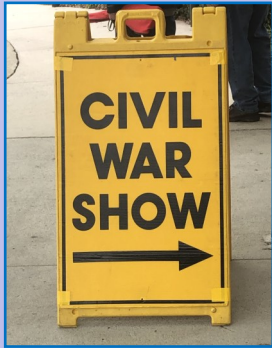
In addition to his wife Linda of 45 years, he will be sadly missed and lovingly remembered by three sons Brad Grannis and his wife Lisa of Phoenix, AZ, Tony Chance and his wife Colleen of St. Albans, MO and Garry Chance of Columbia, MO; one daughter Shannon Grannis and Mark Hatcher of Capitola, CA; seven grandchildren Nick Grannis, Liz Grannis, Anthony Chance, Jackson Chance, Ella Chance, Alexa Westlake and Sher Westlake; several nieces and nephews; other relatives and many dear friends. In addition to his parents, one brother Phil Chance preceded him in death.

Jack graduated from Centralia High School and served his country in the United States Navy. He owned and operated A.B. Chance Co. with his family in Centralia, MO for many years. Later he was instrumental with the Chance Foundation which helped to support the Centralia Battlefield site. Jack was a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, Sons of the Confederate Veterans, Kiwanis, Centralia Jaycees and Students of Free Enterprise. He was awarded and Honorary Doctorate from Southwest Baptist College in Bolivar, MO. He was instrumental in constructing and promoting the Centralia Battlefield site and he loved golf and most of all spending time with his family and grandchildren.

He later traveled to Centralia on February 20 to attend the funeral of Tiger Camp member Jack Chance.

Check out Brother Chance's obituary, which gives a nod to his Civil War history work and membership in the SUVCW.





Doug and Alan traipsed off in January to a Civil War Relic and Gun Show in Dalton, Ga. They celebrate with their exhausted bank accounts with a tasty libation.



Meanwhile, your secretary picked up this ladder badge on ebay. An old Fletcher Camp artifact? No. According to our Dept. website, it is likely for one of these St. Louis Sons of Veterans camps: General John Pope Camp 47, General J. W. Noble Camp 47, or Admiral Porter Camp 47.



When not poking around ebay, Sumner helped out this month with the St. James Camp. They worked on resetting of a tombstone in Ste. Genevieve. It was for Franz Bruner of the 2nd Missouri Artillery.



Evidently, the bank accounts not exhausted or flush with *Bidengeld*, Doug and Mark make their way to another Civil War show; this time in Southhaven, Mississippi. It being Mark's birthday, much hoop-de-do was made of it. Libations followed with Mexican food, revealing a shocking pattern.



The Battle Cry of Freedom

**Yes, we 'll rally round the flag, boys, we 'll rally once again,
Shouting the battle cry of freedom;
And we'll rally from the hillside, we'll gather from the plain,
Shouting the battle-cry of freedom.**

**Chorus. - The Union forever ! hurrah ! boys, hurrah !
Down with the traitor, up with the star,
While we rally round the flag, boys, we rally once again,
Shouting the battle-cry of freedom.**

**We are springing to the call for three hundred thousand more,
Shouting the battle-cry of freedom.
And we 'll fill the vacant ranks our brothers gone before,
Shouting the battle-cry of freedom.**

Chorus. - The Union forever, etc.

**We will welcome to our numbers the loyal, true and brave,
Shouting the battle-cry of freedom.
And although he may be poor, not a man sahl be a slave,
Shouting the battle-cry of freedom.**

Chorus. - The Union forever, etc.

**So we 're springing to the call from the East and from the West,
Shouting the battle-cry of Freedom.
And we 'll hurl the rebel crew from the land we love the best,
Shouting the battle-cry of Freedom.**

Chorus. - The Union forever, etc.

This was taken from Song-Book of the Commandery of the State of Pennsylvania (MOLLUS, 1890).

MARCH MEETING MINUTES

Gen. Thomas C. Fletcher Camp #47 meeting minutes (unapproved)

18 March A. D. 2021, Redeemer Lutheran, 1620 Boyd St., De Soto, Missouri

Attendees: Sons: PCC Sumner G. Hunnewell (Secretary), Don Roussin, PCC Doug Roussin (Commander), Alan Trodus (Treasurer)

Auxiliary: Susan Breland (Council), Kelly Noack (Secretary/Treasurer), Kathie Roussin (Vice President)

Guest: Cindy Thibodeau (sister of past member, Leonard Wright).

The meeting was called to order before 7 p.m. (Sumner was late.)

Doug introduced Cindy, Leonard Wright's sister, who lives in Rhode Island.

Doug let everyone know about an email from Dept. Secretary Edward Krieser about Form 27, which is due on April 30 with a per capita check. He also referenced another email from the Brother Krieser about our Orders statistics. As of February 28, our Order has total membership of 6207. Doug also discussed General Order #12 on licensing.

Doug asked about the National Encampment. How can the Auxiliary help? There will be opportunities to help with the raffle table, as guides, check-in. We are waiting for a regular sign-up sheet. Doug said that he will want a table or two for sale / display. All forms should be on the suvchwmo.org website.

Sumner noted that Form 22 was filed. He discussed the Department Meeting in Jefferson City, talking about two items that came up. The first was the marking of GAR Post meeting places with a plaque. The other was that we are coming up with forms for accepting donations. This helps provide a paper trail and avoid having to trust peoples' memories.

Alan presented the treasurer's report. No movement on the sword raffle. Doug mentioned his trouble with a computer scam.

The Auxiliary gave a quick report. The bank balance is unknown at this time.

Doug bought a small book for us to keep track of camp activities. If anyone has anything to add, please send to Doug. This will track who-did-what-when.

Two JRTOC awards will be presented by Doug. The first is for Randal L. Windsor (Farmington HS) for April 7. The second is for Austin Slavens (Fredericktown HS) for April 16. Doug gave awards to the ROTC coordinators already.

We discussed Memorial Day. The De Soto City Cemetery on Boyd/Grand Streets has Civil War grave and USCT infantry & light artillery graves. Doug has gone to Wal-Mart to see if they will supply 50 U.S. Flags, writing on Camp letterhead stationary. He will talk to the city manager to see if we can have a ceremony. This would take place on Monday, May 31st. Sumner asked if Chris Warren had all of these graves registered. No one knew. Kelly asked if we could go early and

clean-up the black section of the cemetery, which is overrun with bushes? This would be good PR and a spring project. Doug plans on going with his metal detector to look for disposed GAR markers. Evidently, old gravestones would be broken and thrown into a nearby ditch

Woodworking for Pilot Knob is still up in the air. The price of wood has doubled. Doug called John but didn't hear anything back. Doug with rout to make a finished project. Doug suggested that everyone donate an 8' x 1" x 6" board. Kelly gave money to Don to buy wood for her family.

Pilot Knob looks good to go. There is not going to be an public invitation but people can still attend.

Sunday, April 11 at 2 p.m. in Hillsborough, will be a memorial for Leonard Wright. Doug will check to see if we can do a salute. Chris Warren had a revised graveside service for Civil War headstone dedications. We will need volunteers in uniform, if we can participate with a volley as well as performing Taps.

Next month, we agreed to have a dinner meeting at Café 21, 48 Jefferson Square, De Soto. We arrive at 5:30 p.m. for a 6 p.m. dinner. We will have a side room at no charge. We are asked to dress out.

We are being asked to participate in the Old Mines Church Festival, May 15, as a living history group.

For Good of the Order:

- July 1 is the deadline for an ad for our National Encampment program. Sumner made a motion to buy a full-page ad. Don seconded. Passed. We will go in with the Auxiliary.
- July 4 Will be able to participate in the De Soto parade.
- De Soto fall festival should take place
- Veteran Day parades—we should expect to participate.
- De Soto has a tree lighting ceremony. The next night is their Christmas parade.
- We will do bell ringing at Christmas time to help out the De Soto food pantry
- Doug went to a Civil War show in South Haven, Mississippi. There was a Confederate soldier flier regarding Confederate officers and their famous descendants.
- *Ste. Genevieve Herald* had an article about Joseph Riney. Many camp members attended a grave marking of his in St. Mary's, Mo.
- Doug distributed an obituary for Leonard Wright.
- Dues for SVR are due by April 1.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

New Camp Fundraiser

5 tickets for \$4.

10 tickets for \$7.

Drawing to be held after Veterans Day parade this year.



TREASURER'S REPORT

General Thomas C. Fletcher Camp #47 Treasurer's Report for JANUARY 2021

Balance from last report (Dec 2020)	1050.98
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Expenditures

Christmas banquet – De Soto Community Center ck#1277	200.00
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Income

Christmas Banquet fee (16 x \$10.00)	160.00
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2021 dues – Steve Alexander ck#5024	38.00
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2021 dues – Sumner Hunnewell	9.00
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2021 dues – Doug Roussin	39.00
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2021 dues – Bernard Laiben	38.00
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2021 dues – Jeffrey & Dwain Asberry	76.00
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Donation – Jeffrey Asberry	4.00
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<u>Current Balance (25 Jan 2021)</u>	1214.98
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Checking Account	1112.11
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Cash	102.87
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Checks (not yet deposited)	0.00
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<u>End Balance</u>	1214.98
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Sword Raffle status: 57 chances - \$43 donations

Alan R Trodus, Treasurer

TREASURER'S REPORT

General Thomas C. Fletcher Camp #47 Treasurer's Report for February 2021

Balance from last report (Jan 2021)	1214.98
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Expenditure

None

Income

None

<u>Current Balance (16 Feb 2021)</u>	1214.98
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Checking Account	1112.11
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Cash	102.87
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Checks (not yet deposited)	0.00
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<u>End Balance</u>	1214.98
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Sword Raffle status: 57 chances - \$43 donations

Alan R Trodus, Treasurer

TREASURER'S REPORT

General Thomas C. Fletcher Camp #47 Treasurer's Report for March 2021

Balance from last report (Feb 2021)	1214.98
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Expenditure

None

Income

SUVCW Dues-Chris Warren	38.00
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SVR Dues- Marty Aubuchon	3.00
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SVR Dues- Robert Aubuchon	3.00
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Donation – Chris Warren	1.00
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SUVCW Dues-Randal Burd Jr	38.00
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SUVCW Dues-Don Lillicrap	38.00
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SUVCW Dues-John Griffith	38.00
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SUVCW Dues-Mark Arbuthnot	38.00
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SUVCW Dues-Colton Noack	38.00
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SUVCW Dues-Duncan Noack	38.00
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<u>Current Balance (15 Mar 2021)</u>	1487.98
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Checking Account	1226.11
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Cash	261.87
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Checks (not yet deposited)	0.00
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<u>End Balance</u>	1487.98
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Sword Raffle status: 57 chances - \$43 donations

Alan R Trodus, Treasurer

YOUR CAMP OFFICERS

Commander, Historian:

Douglas Wayne Roussin
2roussins@att.net

Senior Vice Commander:

Steve Alexander
stevewonderful@sbcglobal.net

JVC, Chaplain, Eagle Scout Coordinator:

David Christopher Warren
the_civilwar_guy@yahoo.com

Council Member, Historian:

Donald Lee Roussin, Jr.
gastbeer1954@yahoo.com

Council Member, Patriotic Instructor:

Mark Elmo Arbuthnot
markelmoarbuthnot@gmail.com

Council Member:

John R. Griffith, Jr.,
jhngriffith@yahoo.com

Secretary, GRO, CW Memorials Officer:

Sumner Gary Hunnewell
HildifonsTook@prodigy.net

Treasurer:

Alan Richard Trodus
bigalastro@yahoo.com

YOUR AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President, Press Correspondent:

Twyla D. Johnson Warren
clementine_clc@yahoo.com

Vice President:

Katherine (Kathie) Roussin
2roussins@att.net

Council No. 1:

Colleen D. Warren

Council No. 2, Patriotic Instructor:

Susan Breland
brelandsusan@yahoo.com

Council No. 3, Chaplain:

Colissa Alexander
lissasong@sbcglobal.net

Secretary, Treasurer

Kelly Noack kdn417@msn.com

CALENDAR

Camp meetings at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1620 Boyd St., De Soto, unless otherwise noted.

- 17 April—Lincoln Tomb Ceremony, Springfield, Ill.
- 22 April—Camp Meeting, Café 21, De Soto
- 24 April—Tractor Parade, De Soto
- 15 May—Old Mines Church Festival
- 20 May—Camp Meeting
- 31 May—Memorial Day event, De Soto city cemetery
- 5-6 June—Department Encampment, St. Louis
- 17 June—Camp Meeting
- 4 July—Parade, De Soto
- 15 July—Camp Meeting
- 5-8 August—National Encampment, St. Louis

Camp/Auxiliary Meetings

22 April, 20 May, 17 June

March birthdays

3-Mar Douglas Wayne Roussin
6-Mar Mark Elmo Arbuthnot
25-Mar Jeffrey A. Asberry

April birthdays

9-Apr Sumner Gary Hunnewell
11-Apr Alan Richard Trodus

Jules Verne wrote *Around the World in 80 Days*, which mentions the ship *General Grant*. That ship takes the party from Yokohama to San Francisco. Shirley McLaine plays Aouda, the Indian princess (!), in the 1956 movie.