

Mormon Battalion Association
Minutes – Executive Leadership Meeting
10:30 AM, Saturday, 21 January 2017
LTC Max Jamison Residence, 2854 N. Augusta Drive
Lehi, UT 84043

The Mormon Battalion Association Executive Staff meets at least once per quarter on the third Saturday the month at 10:00 am, except when that day is a holiday or conflicts with another event. In that case, the meeting will be re-scheduled and the Executive Leadership will be notified of the change. Members of the public are invited to attend. *Policy:* As with U.S. Congressional minutes, anyone can read appropriate items into the minutes. In the interest of expediency, all participants should be familiar with our proposed minutes *before* each meeting. We will only address items requiring discussion and decisions. The Action Item Review may refer to more detailed discussion in Membership Reports, Member Advisory Committee Reports, and New Business.

Executive Staff Attendance: The following was present: LTC Max W. Jamison (Battalion Commander).

The following were excused: COL Carl V. Larson (Battalion Executive Officer), COL Jerome G. Gourley (Battalion Commander's Chief Advisor), MAJ Clark Olsen (Community Relations Liaison), MAJ Val John Halford (Quartermaster/Logistics Officer), CPT Todd Crappa (Chief Finance Officer and member of Board of Directors), CSM David Munford (Command Sergeant Major), Margaret Larson (Membership Officer), and Steven L. Rinehart (Judge Advocate General).

Board of Directors Attendance: The following was present: James Waite (Vice Chairman).

The following were excused: Edwin Kimball (Chairman), Greg Christofferson, Guy Dickson, BG Ashley Hall, and Dennis Holland.

Local Leadership Attendance: The following was present: SGT David Jamiel (Colorado Squad).

Associated Organization Attendance: The following was present: Laura Anderson (Early Saints Research Group).

Welcome / Call to Order / Recognize Guests / Administrative Items

LTC Max W. Jamison

Invocation

SGT David Jamiel

Minutes of 3 December 2016 Executive Leadership Meeting – Approved

Minutes were posted on Battalion website for review. No corrections were suggested.

General Business:

● **Recognition & Awards**

LTC Jamison is preparing Honorary Membership Certificates for a number of volunteer historians and reenactors who have represented the Mormon Battalion in recent years.

● **Service Opportunities**

None.

● **Project Request Forms and Annual Budget Requests**

We have received no *Project Request Forms* and *Annual Budget Requests* from local units. We can only allocate funds to you if we know your plans and needs.

● **Action Item Review:**

Leadership:

All: Recruit civic and community leaders to serve on our new **Board of Directors**. We have two remaining unfilled positions. *See Board of Directors report.*

- All: Find viable candidates to run for offices of **Battalion Commander (*ex officio* President of Board)** and **Battalion Executive Officer (*ex officio* Vice President of Board)**, who will stand for election for two years. Section 2.02 of the *Articles of Incorporation* states that they coordinate and direct all member activities. Their roles are that of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Operations Officer (COO). *See Board of Directors report.*
- All: Find individuals willing to serve as **1st Executive Director** (S1 - Adjutant General) and **2nd Executive Director** (S7 - Public Relations Commandant) of the Battalion Continental Support Staff. Section 2.02 of the *Articles of Incorporation* states that they manage all administrative support business matters. Their roles are that of Chief Business Executive (CBE) and Chief of Business Operations (CBO), supervising the Battalion Continental Support Staff.

Graves Memorialization:

- COL Larson and Kevin Henson: Work on preparations for graves memorialization for **Dr. George Sanderson, Lewis Dent, Milton Smith, Thomas P. Dutcher and William Reynolds (Reynolds)**. *See Board of Directors report.*

Search of Memorabilia of Late MAJ Don Schultz:

- LTC Jamison: Contact Hugh Schultz, son of the late MAJ Don Schultz, to search for the nine missing white leather belts in his father's memorabilia, and to extract and forward to us the 7,000+ roster of Mormon Battalion Eagle Slides maintained by his father on his personal computer.

Finances:

- CPT Todd Crappa (Chief Finance Officer): Forward documentation to rest of Board of Directors for internal audit. *See Board of Directors Report.*
- CPT Todd Crappa (Chief Finance Officer): Create new *Payment/Reimbursement Request Forms*.

Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Award:

- Kevin Henson: *As soon as possible*, lead Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Member Advisory Committee in providing the data to LTC Jamison and CSM Munford for publication of Requirements booklet. *Mr. Henson is hard at work providing the data. If the trend continues, we expect to be able to publish the requirements booklet in February.*
- LTC Jamison: *As soon as requirements booklet is finished*, coordinate new patches, lapel pins/pendants, requirements list, booklet, and other documentation with LDS Primary-Young Men-Young Women and LDS-BSA coordinators to start publicity.
- COL Gourley and Greg Christofferson: *Continue* coordination with Elder D. Todd Christofferson regarding continued association between LDS Church and Mormon Battalion Association, including historical research and LDS participation in BSA Mormon Battalion Trail Award after Mormon Battalion Association takes over.

Partnership with BYU Center for Family History and Genealogy:

- LTC Jamison: Arrange a four way meeting between Jill Crandall, President Brian Cannon, Laura Anderson, and himself to formulate an unified approach and concrete proposals for donor grants. *See Board of Directors report.*
- COL Gourley: Alert Greg Christofferson of what is coming.

Website Release 3.0:

- LTC Jamison: Create new recruiting materials (brief background of Association and donation page with receipt) for website to go with Membership Application. Forward copies to David Jamiel.
- Laura Anderson and Kevin Henson: Prepare a letter to appropriate LDS and political leaders requesting support in digitization effort, and detailing the information desired. LTC Jamison suggested we contact Elders Holland and Christofferson of the Quorum of the Twelve for support in this matter. Both are very sympathetic to our cause, and Elder Holland supervises Church History.
- Greg Christofferson: *After receiving details*, pursue funding for digitizing of *Muster Rolls*, etc. with donors, including the LDS Church when we know how much it will cost. *See Board of Directors report.*
- LTC Jamison: Re-contact Professor Brian Cannon to request student assistance from two BYU student research organizations (Redd Center for Western History and Early Saints Research Group) to assist in both transcription and

reviewing collection of newspaper Eastern United States newspaper articles about the LDS Church in search of articles about the Mormon Battalion. *See Board of Directors report.*

- LTC Jamison and SGT Jamiel: Complete four Historical Fact sheets and post on website:
 - *The Mormon Battalion Monument*, Pueblo, Colorado.
 - *Peaceful Valley Sign – Mormon Battalion Interpretive Panels* adjacent to Kiowa County Courthouse, Kiowa, Colorado.
 - *Trapper Trails Monument* in the Adams County Historical Site, Brighton, Colorado.
 - *California Trail Interpretive Center* in Elko, Nevada.
- Guy Dickson: Provide reports on activities of California LDS Living History Mission in Southern California, akin to what Peter Guilbert is doing in Northern California.

Honorary Memberships:

- LTC Jamison and Kevin Henson: Send honorary membership certificates to those who have so kindly assisted Mr. Henson in his historical research for and about the Mormon Battalion, particularly Tim Kimball, Terry Latey, and Laura Anderson.
- LTC Jamison: Provide honorary membership certificates to current and past SNMP members.
- LTC Jamison: Contact Mormon Battalion Historic Site, San Diego for list of current and past missionaries for honorary membership certificates.

Norma Ricketts' Research Files and Metadata at University of California - Berkeley:

- Laura Anderson: Copy Norma Ricketts' extensive library of Mormon Battalion history. *See Board of Directors report.*
- Peter Guilbert: Check for a host and assistants to help Laura during her week long visit in February 2017.

COL Carl V. Larson's Research Files and Metadata in Spanish Fork, Utah:

- Laura Anderson: Copy COL Larson's Mormon Battalion research files and metadata prior to their donation to the LDS Church. *Done.*

Gail Holmes' Research Files and Metadata in Omaha, Nebraska:

- Laura Anderson: Copy Gail Holmes' extensive library of Mormon history in the Middle Missouri River Valley prior to its donation to the Church or BYU.

Creation of Website Historian's Editorial Review Board:

- LTC Jamison: Appoint Mike Anderson as Chair of a Historians Editorial Review Board, with full authority to recruit academic and reenactor experts, with the charter to review and correct all present and future items of a "historic nature" posted on the Mormon Battalion Association website, insuring that:
 - a) the material be supported by academic quality research with references, or be clearly labeled as speculation with rationale for why it is being presented.
 - b) the material be peer reviewed by more than one person with skills in the area being discussed – not just "read and looked at" by a couple of people.
 - c) they vote on each article or report.
 - i. If they reject the material, it will *not* be posted online – other than perhaps into the Myths and Mythperceptions section.
 - ii. If they do not achieve unanimous agreement on the material, find a way to respectfully post minority opinions.

Done. The Board is already hard at work. Members include Chair Mike Anderson, members CPT Jared Cornell, MAJ Val John Halford, Steve Sorensen, Kevin Henson, and Laura Anderson, and Webmaster LTC Max Jamison.

Participation in 170th Anniversary of Arrival of Mormon Battalion into San Diego:

- COL Gourley: Look into the possibility of leading a delegation representing us at the annual Mormon Battalion Day there on 28 January 2017. *See Board of Directors report.*

Response to Request for Sponsorship of Muzzle Loading Musket Training by Fred Nudd:

- LTC Jamison: Send Mr. Nudd letter declining his request, as it would expose the Battalion to too much liability. *Done.*

Explore Battalion Participation in Annual BSA “Big Event” in Northeastern Utah:

- CSM Munford: Explore how the Mormon Battalion might participate each year.

Reordering Modified Mormon Battalion Eagle Scout Neckerchief Slides:

- LTC Jamison: Reorder Mormon Battalion Eagle Scout Neckerchief Slides with instructions to modify the molds to change the copyright notice inside the back of our slides from “©MBA” to “©Mormon Battalion Assn.” *Done. Our supplier wants to charge us \$250.00 for redoing the molds, increase the wholesale cost per slide by \$1.85, and only warehouse 300 slides (one year’s worth).*

Membership Reports

Board of Directors: Held Annual Board Meeting on 14 January 2017, and discussed seven subjects:

1. *Board Membership* – Our Board of Directors now comprises the following civic and community leaders from California, Nevada, and Utah:

Chairman: Edwin N. Kimball, Sandy, UT

Vice Chairman: James L. Waite (CDR retired), Nibley, UT

Director: Greg Christofferson, Palm Springs, CA

Director: CPT Todd Crappa, Toquerville, UT

Director: D. Guy Dickson, Irvine, CA

Director: Ashley J. Hall (BG retired), Las Vegas, NV

Director: S. Dennis Holland, St. George, UT

Director: Al Matheson (COL retired), Hurricane and Cedar City, UT

Director: [TBD]

Director: [TBD]

President (Battalion Commander): LTC Max W. Jamison, Lehi, UT

Vice President (Battalion Executive Officer): COL Carl V. Larson, Spanish Fork, UT

1st Executive Director: [TBD]

2nd Executive Director: [TBD]

Executive Secretary: COL Jerome Gourley (COL retired), Toquerville, UT

Your nominations for the remaining two Director positions and the 1st and 2nd Executive Directors of business administration are welcome.

2. *Search for New Battalion Commander and Executive Officer:* LTC Jamison – Not counting filling out COL Gourley's second term from March 2012 to November 2013, we will have served four years in our own right by October 2017. While Carl is willing to continue as Graves Memorialization Officer, and I as Webmaster, we need to step back and let younger, fresher men/women take the lead. *The Board needs to make recommendations for replacements for Max and Carl.*
3. *Implementation of Long Overdue Annual Audit:* COL Jerome Gourley – CPT Crappa is preparing the Association's Quickbooks for the audit preparations, and preparation of the 2016 IRS Form 990. We have located a CPA in the St. George area willing to preform the audit.
4. *Proposal for “All Things Mormon Battalion” Project:* Laura Anderson, Dan Roper, Kevin Henson, and LTC Jamison – Presented proposal to upgrade our website to become “THE recognized source” for online, authenticated information regarding the Mormon Battalion, and become the “BEST OF” website for all things Mormon Battalion related topics by 2019. Requested the Board enact a long term, multi-generational policy to fund and host/link to "all things Mormon Battalion" via the internet. Requested authorization to meet with Jill Crandall of the BYU Center for Family History and Genealogy, President Brian Cannon of the Mormon History Association, and Dr. Brandon Plewe of the Early Saints Research Group to discuss and implement an alliance for research, transcription, and storage of our data after RootsTech on 15, 16, 22, or 23 February. *The Board authorized Laura, Dan, and Max's meeting with Jill, Brian, Brandon, other members of the Early Saints Research Group, and the BYU computer experts to discuss Phase 1 below.*

Phase 1:

1. Fund two BYU student researchers part time through Jill Crandall's BYU Center for Family History and Genealogy to collect and digitize "cradle to grave" primary documentation pertinent to the original Mormon Battalion, i.e., original birth, christening, marriage, property, census, death, and probate records. *Laura explained that Jill Crandall's group of over 40 students are well trained in gathering "cradle to grave" primary documentation on early Saints from several sources. Laura is laying the groundwork for this work. We hope to have a contract in place by the start of the Fall Semester in September 2017.*
2. Fund digital copying of:
 - a. our growing collection of primary and secondary Mormon Battalion data, i.e., Muster Rolls, Post Reports, medical reports, finance reports, LDS Church records, etc.,
 - b. digital copies of the Mormon Battalion Association library we donated to the BYU Special Collections.
 - c. The Norma Ricketts library in the Bancroft Library at University of California at Berkeley.
The Board approved \$700.00 reimbursement to Laura Anderson to travel to the University of California at Berkeley to make digital copies of the Norma Ricketts library. She is busy locating primary and secondary documents for copying.
3. Approach BYU computer experts about hosting Items 1 and 2, periodically syncing with our own domain/website. *This is **not** an "either-or" choice **between** two different hosting architectural options:*
 - a) *Multiple users in Early Saints Research Group with linked/shared read/write access to our data on BYU servers – **This provides secure off site storage of our data for future generations, but can cause data integrity problems when two different users attempt simultaneous or overlapping changes.***
 - b) *Mormon Battalion Association native read/write access to our data on our own server, but periodically resyncing and deconflicting with the master data set on BYU servers – **This maximizes both ease of access and data integrity, but does not provide secure off site storage.***
4. Join the recently formed Early Saints Research Group/BYU computer working group. If we find out where they are headed, we can map out what we want to accomplish without duplicating their efforts. We hope to refine our own Content Management System (CMS) well enough to become the default standard for sharing access to data from Items 1 and 2.
 - a. Develop a standard database/template system where data can be served without building individual pages. Individual research projects can be added or extended.
 - b. Link related information together so that research is not duplicated and users can easily access all available information.
 - c. Implement standard levels of security to allow updates:
 - i. *restricted* – scholarly multilevel password protected access by those working on transcription of and research on the various original digitized documents.
 - ii. *public* – open access to side by side digital images and peer reviewed transcriptions of the primary documents in Items 1 and 2.

The Board approved Dan Roper joining the Early Saints Working Group/BYU computer working group and working to build a common CMS.

Phase 2:

5. Rehost and build Release 4.0 of our www.mormonbattalion.com website on a different server such as Amazon™, Google™, or A2 Hosting™, replacing the current stilted proprietary Windows-based i4 Solutions™ CMS with a portable user friendly one. The new CSM should:
 - a. *be open source (or free)* – We don't want a proprietary or custom solution.
 - b. *be easy to build* – We need to customize our CSM in house at little or no cost. We need templates to choose from that have a WYSIWYG (What You See Is What You Get) interface.
 - c. *be easy to maintain* – We need to easily update or reformat pages without having to deal with complicated code. Again WYSIWYG.

- d. *be capable of multiple data input formats* – We will then be able to consolidate our www.mormonbattalion.com and www.mormonbattalion.info domains/websites with our mirrored/backup of the BYU data onto a single hosting environment.
- e. *be capable of multiple data output formats* – We will have the capability of output to Windows™, Apple™, and Android™ desktop, laptop, tablet, and smart phone platforms.
- f. *implement standard levels of security for data storage and eCommerce* – We need multilevel password protected access to our historical minutes, membership records, activities, and secure functionality for our financial records, donations, and sales.

The Board approved rehosting our website using a new CSM after we achieve as much commonality as possible with the Early Saints Research Group's CSM.

6. Using the new CSM from Item 5, develop and implement a program for indexing and transcription of all digital records in Items 1 and 2. This can be done by volunteers, much as FamilySearch™ has done with their Records Extraction Program. *Laura advised that work on this item cannot proceed until Items 1-5 are completed.*

Phase 3:

7. Approach Denny Henson about funding a MapNTour™ site on our website with maps tracing the “cradle to grave” movements of each person in Item 1. *Laura advised that she had seen a presentation by Kevin at a previous RootsTech about this. Kevin advised that unless you have a LOT of dated information about a person, a visual time line doesn't work. The location information density just isn't high enough. There have been a number of software efforts over the years by students and big companies to do this sort of thing, but it just isn't very compelling for the work involved.. Max advised that work on this item is not a core requirement, and can be indefinitely postponed until “cradle to grave” information matures.*
 8. Proceed with our previously proposed scholarly *The Valiant Journal*, in which we would publish peer reviewed scholarly research papers based on Items 1, 2, 5, 6, and 7. This would be a self-sustaining subscription based copyrighted semiannual hard copy journal, with free digital copies posted online after a judicious period of time. We would create an editorial review board, with contributing editors and reporters from the various contributing local universities. They would coordinate with our new Historians Editorial Review Board, which is tasked with ensuring the correctness of all information posted on our website. *Max advised that work on this item is not a core requirement, and can be indefinitely postponed.*
5. *Recommendations for 2021-22 Commemoration of 175th Anniversary of Mustering of the Mormon Battalion:* Kevin Henson – The upcoming 175th anniversary of the Battalion's formation and service will be in 2021-2022. That's not far off. Leading up those dates we ought to propose some projects worthy of the commemoration and seek support to accomplish them. o clarify; I really am trying to encourage OTHERS to think about what should/could be done and to get talking, deciding and planning. It is NOT my intention for me to personally take on all of these projects. I've pointed out the way for some, but I'm sure there are other projects that could be excellent choices. Also, we need to get the Church involved early on. So I put out a call for suggestions from other folks to add to what was already underway. Here are some of the ideas which are either in progress of being proposed:
- a) Project to commemorate the 30 Battalion members “lost along the trail” by death. Grave marking is fairly easy, and provides good publicity – especially if someone who knows about such things is involved. (See *Details on Gravesite Research and Preparations* below.)
 - i. Markers should be placed at or near the new best estimates for unmarked grave locations.
 - ii. The Veterans Administration & National Cemeteries can provide very basic markers free of charge.
 - b) In the absence of anything from the Battalion leadership, one can easily foresee a series of events all along the trail, conceived by and carried out by local LDS Stakes & Wards. However, if that is the case, then the “old stuff” which we're trying to improve upon will be reiterated and reinforced for yet another generation.
 - i. One can instead contemplate a year-long series of coordinated events along the trails under Church direction (and I include Pueblo and the detachments) to commemorate key events at key locations.
 - ii. Commemorative events and mini-symposia with support of local historical societies
 - iii. Fireside type events
 - iv. Reenacting depictions (high level quality) – would suggest efforts to recruit
 - v. Local tours or a long-distance tour

- c) If the Battalion leadership wishes to ‘herd’ the efforts along, perhaps a digital publication along the lines of what was done for Handcart Trek oversight should be considered. I do think a digital publication a la “Planning Your Handcart Trek,” could be used to promote the website, promote the Trail Award, promote living history efforts, etc. This approach would suggest quick decision and actions to hit a 2019 release date so effective planning can take place for 2021.
 - i. Suggested kinds of events
 - ii. Standards expected
 - iii. History of the Mormon Battalion with an improved interpretation, etc.

I’ll continue to seek opportunities for other ‘worthy projects’ and pass them along.

The Board approved support of the 2021-22 Commemoration of the 175th Anniversary of Mustering of the Mormon Battalion. Committee chair and details to be determined.

6. *Details on Gravesite Research and Preparations:* Kevin Henson – There were 30 deaths along the various Mormon Battalion routes. Of those, 20 men were in the Battalion when they died and two were in the Davis “reenlistment” company. Only about three of those are marked – one in Arizona (but an incorrect location) and two in California. I’m a military kid and it bothers me that the rest of these men are not identified. Based upon research by others and myself, we now can narrowly constrain where some of those ‘lost burials’ are. In addition, we are having success in identifying some of the Army men and others who assisted the Battalion. Some of those remain to be memorialized as well.

a) *Dr. George Sanderson (St. Louis, Missouri):* Grave and family plot have been located at Calvary Catholic Cemetery, St Louis, Missouri. The cemetery has granted permission to emplace an upright stone during the June 2017 Mormon History Association conference in St. Louis. I’ve already raised \$1,100 for a marker. Ordering the stone is imminent and additional funds will be needed before delivery and erection. Since he and his wife are buried

in a ‘historic’ part of the cemetery, we should purchase a nice stone that would ‘fit’ the area. It could be a nice public relations opportunity if we could get some attention in Salt Lake as we do this. We are also preparing Dr. Sanderson’s journal for publication.

Laura Anderson noted that several others associated with the Mormon Battalion are buried nearby, and may warrant inclusion in any guided tour. LTC Jamison noted that Lewis Dent, who traveled to California with the Mormon Battalion as the civilian assistant to Paymaster Major Jeremiah Huddleston Cloud, Jr., is buried in the adjoining Bellefontaine Cemetery, and has only a very plain horizontal gravestone. We are seeking surviving members of his family to obtain permission to place and mark a more appropriate gravestone.



b) *Pueblo Deaths (Pueblo, Colorado):* The second grave marking project would be to add two plaques to the existing monument commemorating both Mormon Battalion and Mississippi Saints deaths in the 1846-47 “Mormon Town” in Pueblo. Jay Todd says he is willing to help this project happen since it is related to his Mississippi Saints roots. That effort should take care of all the Pueblo burials in one effort.

c) *James Hampton and John Green (Crawford Hollow, Socorro County, New Mexico):* The third project is a bit unusual. Cadaver dogs can locate bodies which are very old. I’ve done some research and spoken to a cadaver dog volunteer group from Denver which has offered to come to the Rio Grande with their animals if we cover their expenses. There is a high probability that James Hampton and John Green are buried side by side at Crawford Hollow, Socorro County, New Mexico. We can get two birds with one stone, so to speak. But, if we find the bodies, what will we do with them and where would an appropriate marker be placed?

d) *Milton Smith (Rayado, Colfax County, New Mexico):* Project Four is to emplace a marker at Rayado, Colfax County, New Mexico for Milton Smith. I’ve had some preliminary discussion with representatives of the Boy Scouts of America’s Philmont Ranch and in general they’re intrigued about the idea. The actual grave is about two miles east of the Kit Carson Museum – which itself is along the Santa Fe Trail “Mountain Branch.” While the actual grave is elsewhere, the museum is a logical place for the marker. Strong LDS connections to the Boy Scouts are obvious and should pave the way. Again, it is a good opportunity for LDS public relations efforts. Locating the actual gravesite along the creek would be another worthy effort for cadaver dogs. The grave is on private land and we’d need to have some further thought about how to approach the situation before asking to go for the body.

d) *Nine others*: I have nine more that could be marked but with only a general proximity identified for grave locations. These would probably need to be “Near this location...” kinds of marker. Approximate locations have been proposed for the following and for whom recovery of the actual gravesite I think will be much less likely:

Alva Phelps (Ingalls, Kansas);

Norman Sharp (Heartland, Kansas);

Abner Chase (near el Moro, Las Animas County, Colorado);

Richard Carter & Elijah Freeman (near Socorro, New Mexico);

George Coleman (Union Cemetery, Sandy, Utah);

David Smith (Mission San Luis Rey, California);

Adoniram Judson Pierson (unknown);

MAJ Jeremiah Huddleston Cloud (old Sutter’s Fort Graveyard, Sacramento, California)

Because of the Mormon History Association Conference tie-in during June 2017, marking of Dr. Sanderson’s grave must happen this year. Marking the rest could be done during the 175th Anniversary of the Mustering of the Mormon Battalion during 2021-2022, but the cadaver dog efforts would need to happen sooner so we know we have the actual bodies located. But that is only to confirm my research prior to emplacing a marker. Personally, I’m confident enough about my research that I’d put up markers for all these men without necessarily finding the body. Besides, as Stan Kimball told me: “We put markers where people will read them – not necessarily where things happened.” But wouldn’t finding and repatriating the remains be epic? We could easily appeal for help from the Utah National Guard, family groups, Mexican American War and other veteran organizations, the various states, the Santa Fe Trail Association, the Oregon-California Trail Association, the BLM, etc.

7. *Fort Moore Memorial Refurbishment Status Report*: Greg Christofferson – The monument has National Historic Landmark protected status and considerable pains are being taken to insure that the monument is restored to its pristine condition, complete with 1950s text which would be considered politically incorrect today. There has been significant vandalism which has slowed progress. There have been several changes in people involved. The exact rededication date and role of the Church and the Mormon Battalion Association are to be announced.

Affiliate Organization Reports:

1. **Battalion Trek/MapNTour.com (Michigan Contingent) – Kevin Henson**: Kevin coordinates regularly with LTC Jamison and others in the Battalion.

2. **Boy Scouts of America**: Have received several newsletters.

3. **California LDS Living History Mission – President Dennis Holland**: As of 15 January 2017, the mission has been renamed the California Living History Program. We have a website which is www.californialivinghistory.org

4. **California Pioneer Heritage Foundation – Dennis Holland**: No report.

5. **Daughters of Utah Pioneers**: No report.

6. **Early Saints Research Group – Dr. Brandon Plewe**: No report.

7. **FamilySearch™**: No report.

8. **Friends of the Battalion & Ship Brooklyn – President Donald L. Eastman**: No report.

9. **Heritage Trails Association – Marilyn Mills**: No report.

10. **Mormon Battalion Arizona (Mesa Company) – CPT Owen Garner**: No report.

11. **Mormon Battalion Historic Site, San Diego, California**: The annual Mormon Battalion Day will be 28 January 2017. This will be the 170th anniversary of the arrival of the Mormon Battalion into San Diego. *LTC Jamison requested Col Gourley to look into the possibility of leading a delegation representing us there.*

12. **Mormon Battalion Volunteers, Historic Reenactment Group, Utah Living History Association. – CPT Jared Cornell**: No report.

13. **Mormon History Association – President Brian Cannon**: No report.

14. **Old Spanish Trail Association (OSTA) – President Ashley Hall**: No report.

15. **Sierra Nevada Mormon Pioneers (SNMP) – Commandant Peter D. Guilbert**: This is a very active group of LDS service missionaries, the part of the California Living History Program in Northern California.

Old Business:

December 2015 – Holiday Open Houses. Coloma, CA.

19 January 2017 – Sierra Montessori School Presentation.

Upcoming Events:

21 January 2017 – Gold Discovery Day. Coloma, CA The weather is supposed to be rainy so we will just staff the cabin. There will not be an encampment set up so we don't want to have too many people in the cabin. We will need to have enough folks to fire the cannon, weather permitting. We may ask people to come for a 4 hour shift. Dennis A. will bring the trailer so we can fire the cannon in case it clears up enough. Dress for cold weather.

21 January 2017 – Hands on History. Sutter's Fort. Topic is Trappers, Traders and Treaties. If you plan to attend, contact Peter so he can let them know the number for lunch.

22 January 2017, 7:00 pm – Auburn Stake Encampment Fireside. Auburn Stake Center on Bell Road in Auburn. We just need some of our members to come in PC clothing for color at this event. They are looking for resources to develop stories to teach principles during their activity at the Trek in August. Please let Keith Bond know if you can come up for this activity. Bonus – there will be refreshments after.

28 January 2017, Mormon Battalion Day. Old San Diego, CA. 170th anniversary of arrival. We will be recruiting for California Pioneer Heritage Foundation.

29 January 2017, 11:00 am, Mormon Battalion Route Trip. Guided by Peter. Auto tour starting in Old San Diego with the tour beginning at Ocotillo and stopping in several places of historical interest that the Mormon Battalion encountered before they reached San Diego. Please let Dennis Amaral know if you want to go on this trip so Dennis can rent the van(s) and make the arrangements. It will start about 11:00 a.m. right after the south state missionary conference. Estimated cost is \$15 per person to cover the cost of the van, gas and insurance. There might be time for a short hike or two. Wear strong, sturdy boots if you want to hike short segments of the trail. You need not hike if you don't want to as there are many places to see the sites from the roadside and stops.

2 February 2017, 8:30 am, Twin Lakes Elementary School Presentation.

4 February 2017, Trailer work party. Bubba's work place. We will clean up the trailer, make repairs, inventory everything, learn the location of our equipment and unloading and loading procedures for the equipment. Peter will email time and address. We might make this a snack type party for those working to keep up energy.

May 2017 – Clarksville Day.

20 May 2017, California Pioneer History Day. Coloma, CA. We will be advising but not staffing any stake booths this year. We will staff our encampment near the new sawmill and need all hands on deck

16. Sons of Utah Pioneers: Received monthly reports from Lehi Chapter.

17. Oregon-California Trail Association (OCTA), Southern Trails Chapter – Doug Hocking, Chair: No report.

Local Unit Reports:

Headquarters (HHC) Company – MAJ Clark Olsen: No report.

Utah North Platoon – CPT Robert Olson: No report.

Eastern Idaho Squad – CPT Thomas Griggs: No report.

Logan Squad (aka Company D) – James Waite: No report.

Ogden Section (aka Company C) – MAJ Clark Olsen: No report.

Salt Lake Squad (aka Companies A and B) – LTC Jamison: No report.

Utah South Platoon – LTC Jerry Harris: No report.

Albuquerque Squad – CPT Blaine Bachman: No report.

Cedar City Squad – SGT Larry Bilyeu: No report.

Colorado Squad – SGT David Jamiel: (December 2 & 3) My grandson and I took part in the annual 1846 Christmas Holiday program at Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site in La Junta, Colorado. During the daytime hours, I visited with the general public portraying a member of one of sick detachments of the Mormon Battalion wintering at the Mormon Colony at Pueblo at the junction of Fountain Creek with the Arkansas River. I interacted with visitors and told them about the how, when, and why the colony was formed, and its interactions with Bent's Fort as a source for rations and for work for some of the non-Battalion members.

During the evening on both days the public was offered several candle light tours during which they were taken around the Fort to selected rooms in which they witnessed interactions between costumed characters engaged in

conversations pertaining to events relating to life at the Fort and geopolitical events surrounding the Mexican-American War. I was part of the vignette in the military quarters and I portrayed a Mormon Battalion officer requesting rations from Army Officer Captain Enos. During our 3-4-minute dialogue [for each of the twenty tours] information about the conditions at the colony was conveyed, and the fact that the Battalion was part of the Army of the West and on active duty so they could draw rations from the Army supplies at Bent's Fort. What those rations were was also covered. During the two day event the Fort was host to over 1,000 visitors.

Still working on sourcing statements to be used in Historical Fact sheets for our website on four different locations that have markers or monuments that highlight or at least mention the Mormon Battalion:

1. *The Mormon Battalion Monument* – Pueblo, Colorado. Researching exact location of the encampment near Arkansas River with Kevin Henson.
2. *Peaceful Valley – Mormon Battalion Interpretive Panels* – Kiowa, Colorado, adjacent to County Courthouse.
3. *Trapper Trails Monument* – Adams County Historical Site, Colorado Regional Park, Brighton, Colorado. (Fourth draft submitted.)
4. *California Trail Interpretive Center* – Elko, Nevada. Where members of the Battalion camped twice; General Kearny's Escort in 1847, and the returning Battalion members who opened the Carson Pass for wagons in 1848. I looked at the information that Kevin sent you about the camp site at the junction of the Humboldt River and the South Fork of the Humboldt (Hastings Cutoff) and just want to add a comment or two. I agree with Kevin that Kearny's camp site is not on the spot where the California Trail Center now stands. However, because of the length of the valley in front of the mouth of the South Fork of the Humboldt is very open and flat, many places along the Humboldt River allow a viewer to look directly into the mouth of the canyon. The entry road to the Trail Center is approximately 3/4 of a mile closer to the actual camp site. So when Turner states that they "camped opposite the mouth of the South Fork of the Humboldt at the Hastings Cutoff," he is correct.

It is also correct to say that the Trail Center is opposite the mouth of the South Fork of the Humboldt and the end of the Hastings Cutoff. These two factors are why this site was selected for the Trail Center. From the Trail Center building interpretive plaza over look and the entry kiosk exhibit an individual can look east toward Elko and clearly see the approximate location of Kearny's July 1847 camp. Therefore, I believe that is okay to claim that the camp site was in the vicinity of the Trail Center opposite the mouth of the South Fork of the Humboldt River, and should the BLM desire to interpret this information about the Battalion members passing and camping in the valley they would be accurate in doing so.

13 January 2017 comment from Kevin Henson: "The Elko Center is a very similar situation to the el Camino Terrenate International Heritage Center on the Rio Grande. It's very close to Kearny/Battalion route (on the west bank) and is situated to look SE down the valley the Journada followed. Part of the Mexican-American War merchant wagon train was encamped there waiting for General Doniphan to lead them further south – but the camp stretched for miles along the Rio Grande. Kearny and Fremont's camps no doubt also were not a compact affair for 170+ animals. So, like the Elko Center (and without knowing the exact location of any camp), I'm very comfortable saying the Kearny group encamped 'near' the Center – possibly on the property, but not necessarily. Except for archeologists, I'm not sure it makes much difference. As Stan Kimball said to me, "We put markers where people will read 'em."

St. George Squad (aka Dixie Company) – CPT Robert Wood: COL Gourley and CPT Wood made several Eagle Scout slide presentations.

White Mountain Squad – CPT David Crockett: No report.

Field Company – CPT Lynn Tegland: No report.

California Detached Section – LTC Frank Szeles: No report.

California South Squad (aka "B" Company): No report.

Arizona Detached Section – LTC Lloyd Smith: No report.

Yuma Squad – CPT Gary L. Smith: No report.

At Large Members – No report.

• **Membership Advisory Committee Reports:**

1. **Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Award Committee – Kevin Henson, Chair:**

- a. **Requirements – Kevin Henson:** Still working on text for the Requirements Booklet. Here's what's left to do:

- 1) *History of the Battalion* – (Kevin) Finalizing rewrite of articles by BYU History Professor Larry Porter.
- 2) *Resources and Maps* – (Kevin) A short history, mini-map, and resources for each of the seven Mormon Battalion Trail Segments:
 - a) Iowa Mormon Trail Segment – Have mini-map and short history, but no resources. (Received detailed trail segment bibliography for hosting online.)
 - b) Main Command Segment – Have mini-map, but no short history or resources. (Need detailed trail segment bibliography for posting online.)
 - c) Higgins Family Detachment Segment – Have mini-map and short history, but no resources. (Need detailed trail segment bibliography for posting online.)
 - d) Brown Sick Detachment Segment – Have mini-map and short history, but no resources. (Need detailed trail segment bibliography for posting online.)
 - e) Willis Sick Detachment Segment – Have mini-map and short history, but no resources. (Received detailed trail segment bibliography for hosting online.)
 - f) General Kearny Escort Segment – Have mini-map and short history, but no resources. (Received detailed trail segment bibliography for posting online.)
 - g) Pueblo to Salt Lake Segment – Have mini-map, but no short history or resources. (Need detailed trail segment bibliography for posting online.)

2. Website Release 3.0 Committee – LTC Jamison:

- a. **Trail Markers and Monuments** – Working on updating the listing of Trails Markers and Monuments as time permits. These will be quite helpful in the forthcoming Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Awards. Kevin Henson has submitted several corrections and updates.

• Continental Support Staff Reports:

1. **Chief Finance Officer Report – LTC Jamison:** We currently have a bank balance of **\$19,736.80**, with a pending deposit of **\$385.29** from PayPal, which will bring it up to a grand total of **\$20,122.09**. Here's how it breaks out:

a. **General Fund:**

- *Deposits:* Pending deposit of **\$385.29** from PayPal.
- *Expenditures:* \$39.23 for our December GoToMeeting.com™ fees, \$6.95 for our December banking fees, and \$229.26 for shipping and handling fees from 2 November 2016 through 20 January 2017.
- *Current Balance:* **\$1,483.09**. We should gradually increase this amount as we recoup our outlays for Eagle Scout neckerchief slides and Mormon Battalion Historic Trails patches, pins, and pendants.
- *Pending Expenditures:* \$250.00 for mold change and \$1,800.00 for 300 new slides to SymbolArts,™ normal monthly payments for our GoToMeeting.com™ fees, shipping and handling fees, and banking fees.

b. **Arts Fund:**

- *Deposits:* None.
- *Expenditures:* None.
- *Current Balance:* **\$10,000.00**.
- *Pending Expenditures:* No payments foreseen in the near future.

c. **Historical Research Fund:**

- *Deposits:* None.
- *Expenditures:*
 - **\$125.00** stipend to Laura Anderson for costs while in Omaha working with Terry Latey using ground penetrating radar to locate the Carterville, Iowa Cemetery
 - **\$136.00** stipend to Laura Anderson for books she purchased for her study of those who have published lists of the Mormon Battalion
 - **\$700.00** stipend to Laura Anderson for one week's worth of hotel fare and incidentals while at digitizing the Norma Ricketts Mormon Battalion research files and metadata in the Bancroft Library at the University of California at Berkeley
 - **\$200.00** stipend to Kevin Henson toward an engraved gravestone for Dr. Sanderson in St. Louis to be dedicated during June 2017 Mormon History Association conference there

- *Current Balance:* **\$8,639.00.**
- *Pending Expenditures:* Reimbursement to Dan Roper for creating our new Master Database "hidden" website and domain name. We may need to pay for high quality digital copies of documents held by the Church, the State of Iowa, and the National Archives.

New Business

(Open to Floor)

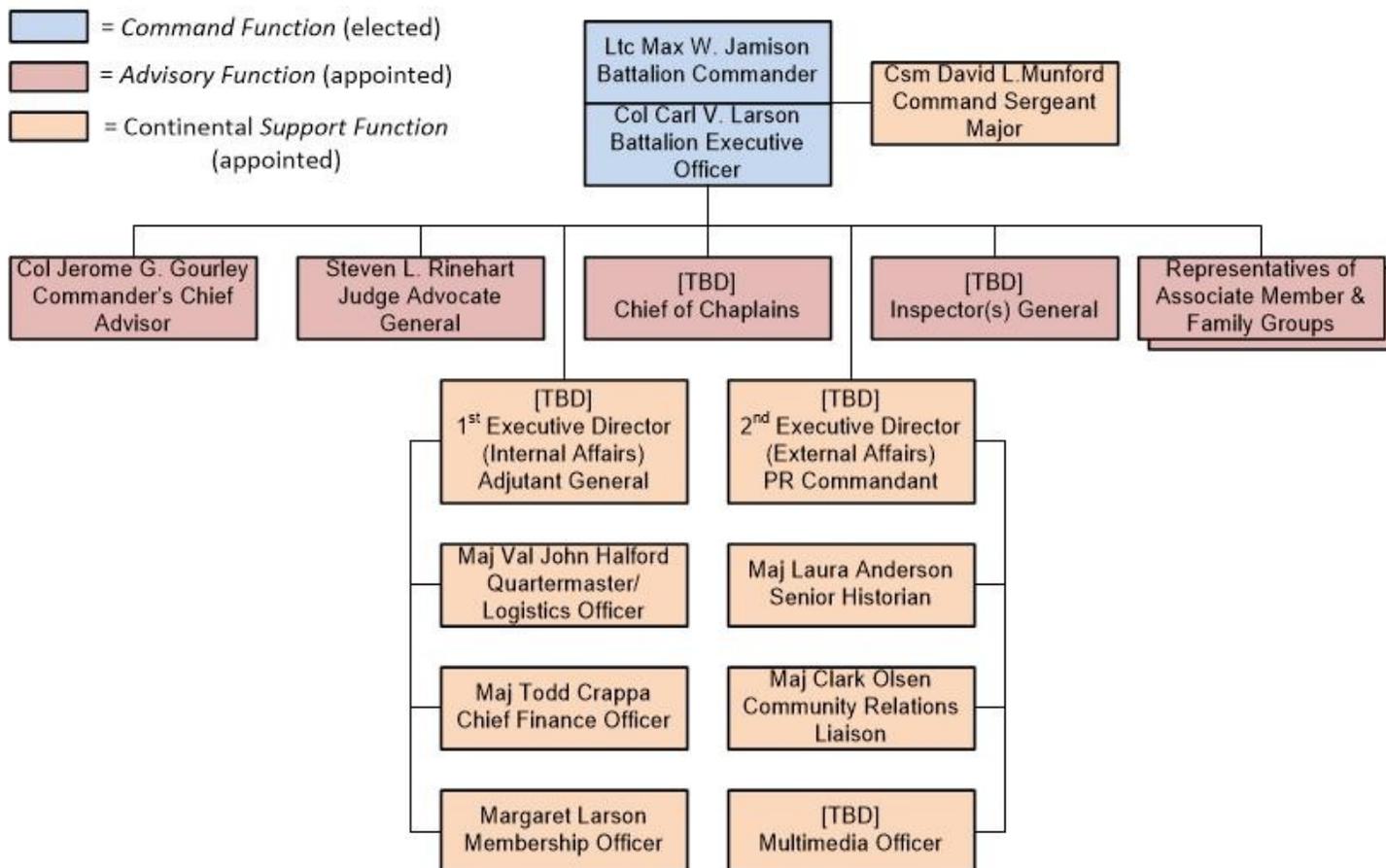
1. Changes to Battalion Executive Staff: LTC Jamison – I propose the following changes in our Battalion Executive Staff:

- I have appointed Laura Anderson as our **Senior Historian**. Given that she has for several months valiantly fulfilled these duties, I propose that we also grant her free lifetime membership with the honorary rank of Major, and appoint her a full voting member of our Executive Staff. Past Senior Historians have been members of the Battalion Continental Support Staff, but not the Executive Staff. Elevation of this position to the Executive Staff is fully warranted by its new duties of supervising the collection and digitizing of all known primary Mormon Battalion data, i.e., “cradle to grave” legal documents, Muster Rolls, Post Reports, medical reports, finance reports, LDS Church records, etc.
- Promote CPT Todd Crappa, who has served valiantly for some time now as our **Senior Finance Officer**, to the honorary rank of major.

While the Battalion Commander has authority to make assignments, we need a quorum of at least four members of the Executive Staff to grant free lifetime membership, approve honorary ranks, and appoint to the Executive Staff.

Mormon Battalion Association

Battalion Executive Staff



Projected Action Items:

Leadership:

- All: Recruit civic and community leaders to serve on our new **Board of Directors**. We have two remaining unfilled positions. *See Board of Directors report.*
- All: Find viable candidates to run for offices of **Battalion Commander (*ex officio* President of Board)** and **Battalion Executive Officer (*ex officio* Vice President of Board)**, who will stand for election for two years. Section 2.02 of the *Articles of Incorporation* states that they coordinate and direct all member activities. Their roles are that of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Operations Officer (COO)..
- All: Find individuals willing to serve as **1st Executive Director** (S1 - Adjutant General) and **2nd Executive Director** (S7 - Public Relations Commandant) of the Battalion Continental Support Staff. Section 2.02 of the *Articles of Incorporation* states that they manage all administrative support business matters. Their roles are that of Chief Business Executive (CBE) and Chief of Business Operations (CBO), supervising the Battalion Continental Support Staff.

Graves Memorialization:

- COL Larson and Kevin Henson: Work on preparations for graves memorialization for **Dr. George Sanderson, Lewis Dent, Milton Smith, Thomas P. Dutcher and William Reynolds (Reynolds)**.

Search of Memorabilia of Late MAJ Don Schultz:

- LTC Jamison: Contact Hugh Schultz, son of the late MAJ Don Schultz, to search for the nine missing white leather belts in his father's memorabilia, and to extract and forward to us the 7,000+ roster of Mormon Battalion Eagle Slides maintained by his father on his personal computer.

Finances:

- CPT Todd Crappa (Chief Finance Officer): Forward documentation to rest of Board of Directors for internal audit.
- CPT Todd Crappa (Chief Finance Officer): Create new *Payment/Reimbursement Request Forms*.

Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Award:

- Kevin Henson: *As soon as possible*, lead Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Member Advisory Committee in providing the data to LTC Jamison and CSM Munford for publication of Requirements booklet.
- LTC Jamison: *As soon as requirements booklet is finished*, coordinate new patches, lapel pins/pendants, requirements list, booklet, and other documentation with LDS Primary-Young Men-Young Women and LDS-BSA coordinators to start publicity.
- COL Gourley and Greg Christofferson: *Continue* coordination with Elder D. Todd Christofferson regarding continued association between LDS Church and Mormon Battalion Association, including historical research and LDS participation in BSA Mormon Battalion Trail Award after Mormon Battalion Association takes over.

Partnership with BYU Center for Family History and Genealogy:

- LTC Jamison: Arrange a four way meeting between Jill Crandall, President Brian Cannon, Laura Anderson, and himself to formulate an unified approach and concrete proposals for donor grants. *See Board of Directors report.*

Website Release 3.0:

- LTC Jamison: Create new recruiting materials (brief background of Association and donation page with receipt) for website to go with Membership Application. Forward copies to David Jamiel.
- Laura Anderson and Kevin Henson: Prepare a letter to appropriate LDS and political leaders requesting support in digitization effort, and detailing the information desired. LTC Jamison suggested we contact Elders Holland and Christofferson of the Quorum of the Twelve for support in this matter. Both are very sympathetic to our cause, and Elder Holland supervises Church History.
- Greg Christofferson: *After receiving details*, pursue funding for digitizing of *Muster Rolls*, etc. with donors, including the LDS Church when we know how much it will cost.
- LTC Jamison: Re-contact Professor Brian Cannon to request student assistance from two BYU student research

organizations (Redd Center for Western History and Early Saints Research Group) to assist in both transcription and reviewing collection of newspaper Eastern United States newspaper articles about the LDS Church in search of articles about the Mormon Battalion.

- LTC Jamison and SGT Jamiel: Complete four Historical Fact sheets and post on website:
 - *The Mormon Battalion Monument*, Pueblo, Colorado.
 - *Peaceful Valley Sign – Mormon Battalion Interpretive Panels* adjacent to Kiowa County Courthouse, Kiowa, Colorado.
 - *Trapper Trails Monument* in the Adams County Historical Site, Brighton, Colorado.
 - *California Trail Interpretive Center* in Elko, Nevada.
- Guy Dickson: Provide reports on activities of California LDS Living History Mission in Southern California, akin to what Peter Guilbert is doing in Northern California.

Honorary Memberships:

- LTC Jamison and Kevin Henson: Send honorary membership certificates to those who have so kindly assisted Mr. Henson in his historical research for and about the Mormon Battalion, particularly Tim Kimball, Terry Latey, and Laura Anderson.
- LTC Jamison: Provide honorary membership certificates to current and past SNMP members.
- LTC Jamison: Contact Mormon Battalion Historic Site, San Diego for list of current and past missionaries for honorary membership certificates.

Norma Ricketts' Research Files and Metadata at University of California - Berkeley:

- Laura Anderson: Copy Norma Ricketts' extensive library of Mormon Battalion history.
- Peter Guilbert: Check for a host and assistants to help Laura during her week long visit in February 2017.

Gail Holmes' Research Files and Metadata in Omaha, Nebraska:

- Laura Anderson: Copy Gail Holmes' extensive library of Mormon history in the Middle Missouri River Valley prior to its donation to the Church or BYU.

Participation in 170th Anniversary of Arrival of Mormon Battalion into San Diego:

- COL Gourley: Look into the possibility of leading a delegation representing us at the annual Mormon Battalion Day there on 28 January 2017.

Explore Battalion Participation in Annual BSA "Big Event" in Northeastern Utah:

- CSM Munford: Explore how the Mormon Battalion might participate each year.

Changes to Battalion Executive Staff:

- Executive Staff: Promote CPT Todd Crappa, our Senior Finance Officer, to the honorary rank of major.
- Executive Staff: Grant Laura Anderson, our new Senior Historian, free lifetime membership with honorary rank of Major and full voting membership in our Executive Staff.

Closing Remarks & Inspirational Thought

None

None

Benediction

James Waite

Next Executive Staff Meeting:

10:00 AM - Noon, Saturday, 18 February 2017
Residence of LTC Max W. Jamison
2854 N. Augusta Drive
Lehi, UT 84043