

# Mormon Battalion Association

## Minutes – Executive Leadership Meeting

6:00 PM, Thursday, 15 February 2018

LTC Max Jamison Residence and via GoToMeeting.com

189 E. 1864 South, Orem, UT 84058

The Mormon Battalion Association Executive Staff meets at least once per quarter on the third Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm, 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 were present: LTC Max W. Jamison (Battalion Commander), COL Jerome Gourley (Battalion Commander’s Chief Advisor and Executive Secretary of the Board of Directors), MAJ Laura Anderson (Senior Historian), and Kevin Henson (Trails Expert).

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

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

**Associated Organization Attendance:** The following was present: Peter Guilbert (California LDS Living History Mission, Northern California Area).

**Welcome / Call to Order / Recognize Guests / Administrative Items**

**LTC Jamison**

**Invocation**

**C OL Jerome Gourley**

### **Minutes of 25 January 2018 Executive Leadership Meeting – Approved**

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

### **General Business:**

#### **Recognition & Awards**

None

#### **Service Opportunities**

See <https://www.JustServe.org>™ website.

#### **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.
- 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 **1<sup>st</sup> Executive Director** (S1 - Adjutant General) and **2<sup>nd</sup> 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 **Lewis Dent, Milton Smith, Thomas P. Dutcher** and **William Reynolds (Reynolds)**.

#### Finances:

- COL Gourley: Have CPT Crappa (Chief Finance Officer) contact LTC Jamison to prepare IRS Form 990. *COL Gourley promised to contact CPT Crappa again.*
- CPT Crappa (Chief Finance Officer): Prepare documentation to forward to Board of Directors for internal audit.
- CPT 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. *See Member Advisory Committee Reports, 1. Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Award Committee.*
- 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.

#### 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 and Terry Latey.
- 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.

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

- Terry Latey and MAJ Anderson: Review and digitize Gail Holmes' extensive library of Mormon history in the Middle Missouri River Valley at MAJ Anderson's home prior to its donation to the Church or BYU. *We agreed to give MAJ Anderson a \$450-500 stipend for her 21-24 February trip to Omaha, Nebraska to collect Gayle Holmes' library.*

#### Website Updates:

- 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.
- 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 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.

### **“All Things Mormon Battalion” Project:**

- Dan Roper: Implement Release 4.0 as quickly as possible.
- All: Nominate indexers good at reading cursive to MAJ Anderson to help with indexing and transcription in Kindex™ software.
- Col Gourley: Follow up with Greg Christofferson regarding his contacts with our friends with deep pockets to fund \$20,000 for two BYU students in Jill Crandall’s BYU Center for Family History and Genealogy to find and digitize original “cradle to grave” documents of the approximately 2,000 members of the original Mormon Battalion and their laundresses, guides, and family members.

### **Research Mormon Battalion Association Documents in BYU Special Collections:**

- LTC Jamison: Research missing history of Mormon Battalion Association from late 1940s through late 1990s in the Special Collections, Harold B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University.

### **Possible Alliance with Sons of Utah Pioneers:**

- Ashley Hall: Discuss situation with General Authorities.

### **Membership Reports**

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**Board of Directors:** No report.

### **Affiliate Organization Reports:**

- 1. Battalion Trek/MapNTour.com (Michigan Contingent) – Kevin and Denny Henson:** (See *New Business*.)
- 2. Boy Scouts of America:** No report.
- 3. California LDS Living History Mission, Southern California Area – Mission Presidency:** No report.
- 4. California LDS Living History Mission, Sacramento Area (formerly referred to as Sierra Nevada Mormon Pioneers) – Peter D. Guilbert:**

#### **Past Events:**

- 14 January, Northern California Area Pot Luck and Zone Conference.
- 18 January, Sierra Montessori School Presentation – Grass Valley
- 20 January, Gold Discovery Day – Coloma
- 20 January, Hands on History, Sutter’s Fort
- 27 January, Mormon Battalion Day, Old Town, San Diego
- 3 February, Trailer Work Party, Amaral’s Home
- 8 February, Forest Hill Divide School Presentation – Forest Hill
- 10 February, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday History Day, Coloma

#### **Upcoming Events:**

- 17 February, Hands on History, Sutter’s Fort – Theme: "They Came by Land and Sea". We have experience on both with the Mormon Battalion and *Ship Brooklyn*. I will need a list of who might be able to come. I need a head count to help out the kitchen meal planning. We should have shelter available if it decides to rain ever again. Hours are 10 AM to 4 PM. Please be there by 9:30 for the morning briefing.
- 18 February, Monthly Meeting, Van Maren Building
- 19 February, American Heritage Day, Mt. Vernon Memorial Park, Citrus Heights – We will set up a small encampment and probably fire the cannon at some time during the day. This is a nice event with displays from all periods of history. We will need help to make sure we have enough people to staff the cannon drill and the encampment. If it is raining that day we will pass on this event.
- 22 February, Natoma Station Elementary School Presentation, Folsom
- 24 February, Oakland Mission Training, Oakland Temple, Oakland
- 3 March, Sacramento County History Day, Inderkum High School, Sacramento
- 10 March, Revolution Run History Day, John Adams Academy, Roseville

- 15 March, H. Clark Powers School Presentation, Loomis
- 17 March, Hands on History, Sutters Fort – Theme: “Frontier Survival Skills”
- 18 March, Monthly Meeting, Van Maren Building
- 24 March, Return of the Swallows Parade, San Juan Capistrano

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

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

**7. Early Saints Research Group – Maj Laura Anderson:** Save the date! We will hold our 5<sup>th</sup> annual Early Saints Research Group Meeting on Monday, 26 February at 2:30 pm, at the LDS Church History Library’s new 1st floor classroom at State Street and North Temple in downtown Salt Lake City. I realize that many of you have had to choose the EarlySaints meeting over the BYU Family History Technology Workshop so this year we have moved our meeting to Monday for our technology guys. (We love and need this group.)

To avoid problems on the day of the meeting, we recommend that those attending remotely download and install the Church’s software program a day or two early. Go to [pvc.lds.org](http://pvc.lds.org) and click the green download button. You will be asked to click the download button a second time. If you have any trouble downloading the link call 801-240-4357 LDS Global Service help. They will be able to walk you through the process better than I can. I will be in Tuesday morning, 20 February to help you try it out if that fits into your schedule.

Once the program has been downloaded you will have to install the program. When you are asked for the portal you can close that tab and click the link below:

<http://pvc.lds.org/flex.html?roomdirect.html&key=DsnXu5pm3g1BYWOcN5XG0gvOeGk>

Enter you name and click the join link.

To attend the meeting remotely on the 26th, sign in to the remote link above at about 2:15 pm. This will allow us to be ready for the start of the meeting at 2:30 pm. **PLEASE MUTE YOUR MIC AFTER YOU JOINED THE MEETING SO WE DON’T HAVE ALL THE BACKGROUND NOISE DURING THE MEETING.**

Please forward the above instructions to those you invite to attend remotely.

### **Agenda**

Conducting – Brandon Plewe

2:35 Introduction of attendees who are not presenting.

2:50 Kevin Nielson – Where Church History is headed on a personal authority. *The Church has agreed to create an index of individual ID numbers which Group researchers can share.*

3:00 Jill Crandell – Recently found documents on the Mormon Battalion. *Ms. Crandall will be discussing the documents she and MAJ Anderson found at the National Archives last October.*

3:07 Keith Erickson – What’s new at LDS Church History. LDS Church History and their partnership with the Community of Christ.

3:14 Laura Anderson, Mormon Battalion Association Senior Historian – With her crowd source indexing project for early Church records. See <https://mormonbattalion.kindex.org> Click on request access. *The Church has recently released records from its branches in the Middle Missouri Valley; this will be a boon to our research on families left behind by the Mormon Battalion.*

3:20 David Taylor – The New and Improved Church History Library Catalog

3:30 Lightning Talks – To allow as many of you as possible to share what you are working on, we will have a series of 4 minute “Lightning Talks” available. It’s fun to present your work, but be ready, the clock is ticking! If you do not want to present, or there are not enough slots, or you want to share more information feel free to put together a project description that we can share with the group. (Contact Laura to sign up for Lightning Talks or supply your project descriptions at [paffanatic10@yahoo.com](mailto:paffanatic10@yahoo.com))

4:10 close meeting.

4:10 Networking – I have always said that the meat of this meeting happens when we stop talking and allow people to network with attendees who are working on similar projects. This year we have decided to make this easier. There will be tables around the room for those who want to bring a laptop to show off their projects. If you have data that would help others with their research, please bring it on a flash drive and give it to Brandon Plewe. He will post it for the rest of us to use. Remember, we are an open group and would love to have whomever you would like to invite so you are free to send this announcement to those who you feel would benefit from attending either in person or remotely!

5:00 Building closes.

8. **FamilySearch™:** No report.
9. **Friends of the Battalion & Ship *Brooklyn* – President Donald L. Eastman:** No report.
10. **Heritage Trails Association – Marilyn Mills:** No report.
11. **Mormon Battalion Arizona (Mesa Company) – CPT Owen Garner:** No report.
12. **Mormon Battalion Historic Site, San Diego, California:** No report.
13. **Mormon Battalion Volunteers, Historic Reenactment Group, Utah Living History Association. – CPT Jared Cornell:** No report.
14. **Mormon History Association – President Brian Cannon:** No report.
15. **Old Spanish Trail Association (OSTA) – Ashley Hall:** No report.
16. **Sons of Utah Pioneers:** Received monthly report 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 – James Waite:** No report.

**Ogden Section – MAJ Clark Olsen:** No report.

**Salt Lake Squad – LTC Jamison:** Presented first ever Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Award on 23 January in Draper, three Eagle Scout slides in Corrine on 28 January (see *Closing Remarks and Inspirational Thought*), three Eagle Scout slides in West Valley City on 3 February, and one Eagle Scout slide in Provo on 11 February.

**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:** No report.

**St. George Squad – 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.

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#### **Membership Advisory Committee Reports:**

1. **Graves Memorialization Committee – Kevin Henson:** No report.

2. **Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Award Committee – Kevin Henson, Chair:** Still working on text for the *Requirements Booklet*. Here’s what’s left to do:

*Section 1. History of the Battalion* – Finalizing rewrite of articles by BYU History Professor Larry Porter.

Section 2. *Trail Segment Resources and Maps* – A short two-page introduction, mini-map, and selected readings for each of the seven Mormon Battalion Trail Segments:

- a) *Iowa Mormon Trail Segment*
- b) *Main Command Segment*
- c) *Higgins Family Detachment Segment*
- d) *Brown Sick Detachment Segment*
- e) *Willis Sick Detachment Segment*
- f) *General Kearny Escort Segment*
- g) *Pueblo to Salt Lake Segment*

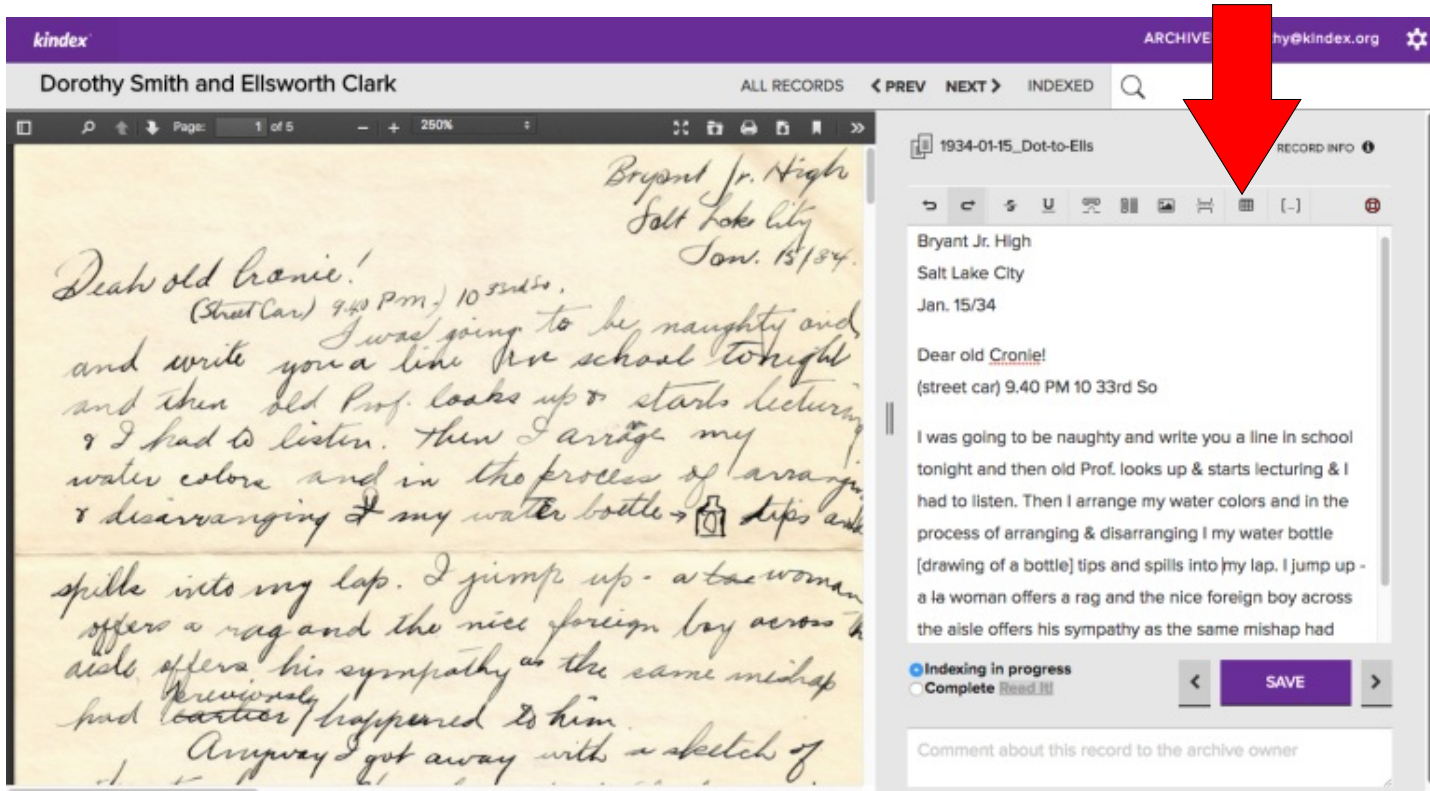
**3. “All Things Mormon Battalion” Project – LTC Jamison, MAJ Anderson, and Dan Roper:** (For details, see Board of Directors Report in our 21 January 2017 *Minutes*.)

**Phase 1:**

1. Fund two BYU student researchers part time through Jill Crandall’s BYU Center for Family History and Genealogy to find and digitize original “cradle to grave” documents of the approximately 2,000 members of the original Mormon and their laundresses, guides, and family members, i.e., original birth, christening, marriage, property, census, death, and probate records.. *After receiving approval of our Industrial Cooperation Proposal, Greg Christofferson reported on 2 February that he is fully committed to raising the funds for this important and worthy project, that while amount to be raised is small compared to other projects for which he had solicited, he had not yet made the connection with the right donor. He hopes to have something concrete by the end of this month. Jill said that LDS Philanthropies could be approached if needed.*
2. Fund digital copying of:
  - a. our growing collection of primary and secondary Mormon Battalion data, i.e., *Muster Rolls, Pay 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. *MAJ Anderson reported that the Special Collections needs letters of release sent to her from anyone who might have documents in the archives we donated. She has already received a letter from MAJ Val John Halford.*
3. Approach BYU computer experts about hosting Items 1 and 2, periodically syncing with our own domain/website. *Ms. Crandall reports that BYU is willing to host the Item 1 data her group develops plus Item 2 data to be shared with others. The Association must store its private data elsewhere.*
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.

**Phase 2:**

5. Rehost and build Release 4.0 of our [www.mormonbattalion.com](http://www.mormonbattalion.com) website, replacing the current limited proprietary CMS with a portable more flexible and user friendly one, and hosting it on a cloud based server such as Amazon™, Google™, or A2 Hosting™. *We need to migrate as quickly as possible. We have no time line from Dan Roper regarding when we will switch our public website over to our new server with his new CMS, complete with updated online Comprehensive Alphabetical Listing, new Individual History templates, and links to Kindex transcriptions of the 75+ original diaries and journals, and images of the Land Warrants, Pension Records, and supporting documentation from the NARA.*
6. Using the new CMS 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. *The new Kindex™ software update announced on 13 February, just before the Rootstech Conference, will be able to handle this. MAJ Anderson currently has eight volunteers performing transcriptions, and needs more. If you look carefully, you can see the “table” icon (which she and her husband funded through a Battalion donation) above the transcription:*



#### 4. Senior Historian's Report – MAJ Anderson:

- a. Worked on National Archives (NARA) *Land Warrants* and *Muster Rolls*. Cindy Norton, an LDS volunteer at the NARA, is continuing our work there.
- c. *Temple Records*. I am researching the endowment records of Battalion veterans, which give their full name, date and place of birth, and their parents' names.
- d. *Pension Files*. I am making hyperlinks to Battalion members' *Pension Applications* which have recently come on line at FamilySearch™ so that the BYU students have ready access to these records.

#### • Continental Support Staff Reports:

**1. Chief Finance Officer Report – LTC Jamison:** We currently have a bank balance of **\$16,806.40**, down from last month's \$16,967.37. Since our last meeting in December, we have had the following activity:

**a. Main Share Savings:**

- *Deposits:* None
- *Current Balance:* **\$1.05**
- *Pending Expenditures:* None

**b. General Fund:**

- *Deposits:* \$320.74 from PayPal, and \$27.50 for a slide
- *Expenditures:* \$48.79 for February shipping and handling fees, and \$450.00 for Mormon Battalion Eagle Scout Slides
- *Current Balance:* **\$1,403.77**, down from \$1,527.25
- *Pending Expenditures:* Normal UPS Store shipping and handling fees, normal \$39.23 monthly fee from GoToMeeting.com™, and a possible \$827.00 for new member lapel pins and shoulder patches and \$752.00 for bolo slides (See *New Business Item 2.*)

**c. Arts Fund:**

- *Deposits:* \$1.28 interest
- *Expenditures:* None

- *Current Balance:* **\$10,013.51**, up from 10,012.23
  - *Pending Expenditures:* None
- d. Historical Research Fund:**
- *Deposits:* \$0.46 interest
  - *Expenditures:* None.
  - *Current Balance:* **\$5,388.07**, up from 5,387.61
  - *Pending Expenditures:* \$450-500 stipend to MAJ Laura Anderson for 21-24 February trip to Omaha, Nebraska to collect Gayle Holmes' extensive library of Mormon history in the Middle Missouri River Valley for digitizing before donating to the Church or BYU (*See Action Item "Gail Holmes' Research Files and Metadata in Omaha, Nebraska."*)

## New Business

(Open to Floor)

**1. MapNTour Release of Higgins Family Detachment Route.** (Kevin Henson, 22 January 2018) We are announcing release of the first Mormon Battalion digital trail section.

The Higgins Family Detachment trail segment is "complete," subject to peer review and any minor corrections as needed. This is our "proof of concept" version.

All of the other Battalion trail segments – except General Kearny's Escort – are depicted in "beta" version. The trails are generally very accurate (except some short portions) though little of the interesting additional information has been added to the icon place marks. That is forthcoming this year.

For desktop/laptop computers, got to: [www.mapntour.com/view/mbtfs](http://www.mapntour.com/view/mbtfs)

For mobile devices - iOS and Android - go to your app store and download the MapNTour app. The logo is shown at right:

Once you've registered (free), scroll down the list of available trails and select to download the "Mormon Battalion Trail." Most things are transferring as intended, though there are some differences we've noted.

The digital trail was initially created for desktop viewing with a BIG screen for display. I'm excited for what we have planned for the future with mobile devices, but the best experience right now is when you are hooked to a computer.

*A word about expectations:* This is NOT a complete retelling of the Battalion story. You won't necessarily read about what your ancestor did on any given date. This was created to puzzle out their routes at very high resolution. We are putting events into specific places. There is still some work to be done. One final note: A Google Maps™ software change has forced us to rehost our program on Cesium™ software with Bing Maps,™ causing a temporary loss of 3-D effect. If you have a need for that, call me directly.

Please contact me with any comments, suggestions, or corrections.

**2. Mormon Battalion Association Marketing.** (LTC Jamison and CSM Mumford) As is the trend with all social service clubs, our membership has been waning for years. Currently, all we offer new members a membership certificate, an ruby lapel pin, and the mysterious opportunity to serve. Few prospective members are interested in creating and wearing custom tailored, historically inaccurate "blue suit" uniforms based on 1950 theatrical costumes. We are the laughing stock of reenactors. Even the text on our shoulder patches – "U.S. Mormon Battalion" and "Utah Division" – is incorrect. The official name of the original battalion was "Mormon Battalion, Army of the West, U. S. Army." And anyone familiar with the military knows that army battalions never include divisions; it's the other way around! One Army division includes 3-4 regiments, each of which includes 3-5 battalions. — *We are suffering from identity crisis!* We are in the process of reinventing ourselves into a very dynamic online heritage organization, but few yet know about the



exciting new opportunities to assist in researching our history. Perhaps the most common query we get from the public is, “But what does the Mormon Battalion actually do?” *We need to do a far better job of marketing our logo, mission, and historic trails!* We propose three new incentives which will draw attention to and help finance our new three phase “All Things Mormon Battalion” project, our new Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Award Program, and our existing Mormon Battalion Eagle Scout neckerchief program. (See 25 November 2017 *Minutes*.) Please note that they could be implemented simultaneously or in stages:



Ruby  
Lapel  
Pin



Oval Left Shoulder Patch



Rectangular Right Shoulder Patch

**a. Distribution of Mormon Battalion Association Ruby Member Lapel Pins and Shoulder Patches to All Members –**

To encourage new membership, we propose that all *new* or *renewing* annual or lifetime individual members, family groups, and associate organizations who complete and submit a new *Membership Form* will receive one *free* ruby member lapel pin and one set of *free* shoulder patches, only paying \$7.00 shipping and handling. Our cost would be about \$16.42 per member. Members, family groups, and associate organizations would be eligible to purchase additional sets of patches for their use only at \$6.00 plus shipping and handling.

*Negatives:* The lapel pin and patches are currently free, and *for members only*, making this a niche market. After three years without further sales, our manufacturer has destroyed the mold for our ruby member lapel pins, so when our current supply of 36 is exhausted, we will have to start over. Minimum orders for the pins are 50 each, and minimum orders for patches are 100 each. *A full set of 100 pins and patches would cost about \$827.00.* We would need to survey our members to see how many patches and pins they will want. We do *not* want to overextend ourselves.

*Positives:* *This enables us to identify – and identify with – our logo, mission, and historic trails!* And when our current supply of lapel pins is exhausted, we can redesign the pin, replacing the soldier silhouette with our logo, Ed Fraughton’s *The Battalion Soldier*.



*It was agreed that most prospective members are not interested in creating or wearing custom tailored, historically inaccurate “blue suit” uniforms. (Only 3-4 non-Mormon Battalion-level Army officers wore uniforms anyway.) A more affordable and useful alternative would be plain white, light toned, or khaki military style long sleeved dress shirts with two flap/button down pockets. Shoulder patches could be sewn on the sleeves, brass rank insignia and silver attached to the epaulets and/or collars, and name tags, ruby membership pins, and Historic Trails Award patches attached to the pocket buttons. (Irregular or “second” tactical shirts with epaulets and long sleeves like the one on the left can be purchased online for \$6.99 each.)*

**b. Marketing of Mormon Battalion Association Bolo Ties –** We also propose that *anyone* – Battalion member or not – be able to purchase a bronze four colored metal bolo tie with ceramic inlay and matching brown neck cord and dark bronze colored metal tips on our website. The market price for similar bolo ties is \$17.99 to \$22.50. (We charge \$20.00 plus \$7.00 shipping and handling for our Mormon Battalion Eagle Scout neckerchief slides.) Our cost would be \$7.52 each for the first 100, but – depending on how many medallions we can make per mold – it could go down.



Triangular Bolo Tie  
Medallion

*Negatives:* Minimum orders are 100 each, at a cost of \$752.00. Ours is a niche market product, so we don't know well the bolo ties will sell. We do *not* want to overextend ourselves. We may want to survey our members to see how many they will want, and do market research to tell the interest level among non-Battalion members.

*Positives:* This is a very attractive and easily recognized bolo tie which could be worn by anyone – male or female – supporting our organization, including those not eligible to wear Mormon Battalion Eagle Scout neckerchief slides.

*While the proposed design for the bolo tie medallion was very well liked, it was suggested that bolo ties have only limited regional interest, and would not sell well across the rest of the country.*

**c. Marketing of Mormon Battalion Association Baseball Hats** – We propose reviving Ashley Hall's concept of Mormon Battalion Association baseball hats – *this time with our new shoulder patches attached*. For many members, this may be the only piece of Battalion memorabilia they will regularly own and wear. We propose that *anyone* – Battalion member or not – be able to purchase these hats on our website. This is an awesome way of extending beyond our niche market, allowing members and friends to display and identify with our logo, mission, and historic trails.

*Negatives:* We have no idea what the cost of a minimum order would be. A brief survey of the internet shows a price of about \$25.00 for custom baseball hats, with numerous designs available. We don't know well the hats will sell, and do *not* want to overextend ourselves. We may want to survey our members to see how many they will want, and do market research to tell the interest level among non-Battalion members.

*Positives:* This is a very attractive and easily recognizable way of advertising ourselves, particularly if we make our hats available to the general public.

*Rather than sewing shoulder patches on the baseball hats, it was suggested that we create a new patch resembling the proposed bolo tie medallion and sew it on the front of the baseball hats, and have the words "Mormon Battalion Association" embroidered across the back of the hat.*

**3. New Meeting Time.** A proposal by MAJ Anderson to delay our meeting start time one hour to accommodate those in California was approved by unanimous consent.

## Projected Action Items

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### Leadership:

- All: Recruit civic and community leaders to serve on our new **Board of Directors**. We have two remaining unfilled positions.
- 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 **1<sup>st</sup> Executive Director** (S1 - Adjutant General) and **2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

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### Finances:

- COL Gourley: Have CPT Crappa (Chief Finance Officer) contact LTC Jamison to prepare IRS Form 990. *COL Gourley promised to contact CPT Crappa again.*
- CPT Crappa (Chief Finance Officer): Prepare documentation to forward to Board of Directors for internal audit.
- CPT 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. *See Member Advisory Committee Reports, 1. Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Award Committee.*
- 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.

### **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 and Terry Latey.
- 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.

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

- Terry Latey and MAJ Anderson: Move Gail Holmes' extensive library of Mormon history in the Middle Missouri River Valley from Terry Latey's home in Omaha to MAJ Anderson's home in Tooele where they will prior to its donation to the Church or BYU. *We agreed to give MAJ Anderson a \$450-500 stipend for her 21-24 February trip to Omaha, Nebraska to collect Gayle Holmes' library.***Leadership:**
- All: Recruit civic and community leaders to serve on our new **Board of Directors**. We have two remaining unfilled positions.
- 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 **1<sup>st</sup> Executive Director** (S1 - Adjutant General) and **2<sup>nd</sup> 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 **Lewis Dent, Milton Smith, Thomas P. Dutcher and William Reynolds (Reynolds)**.

### **Finances:**

- COL Gourley: Have CPT Crappa (Chief Finance Officer) contact LTC Jamison to prepare IRS Form 990. *COL Gourley promised to contact CPT Crappa again.*
- CPT Crappa (Chief Finance Officer): Prepare documentation to forward to Board of Directors for internal audit.
- CPT Crappa (Chief Finance Officer): Create new *Payment/Reimbursement Request Forms*.

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#### **Website Updates:**

- 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.
- 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 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.

#### **“All Things Mormon Battalion” Project:**

- Dan Roper: Implement Release 4.0 as quickly as possible.
- All: Nominate indexers good at reading cursive to MAJ Anderson to help with indexing and transcription in Kindex™ software.
- Col Gourley: Follow up with Greg Christofferson regarding his contacts with our friends with deep pockets to fund \$20,000 for two BYU students in Jill Crandall's BYU Center for Family History and Genealogy to find and digitize original “cradle to grave” documents of the approximately 2,000 members of the original Mormon Battalion and their laundresses, guides, and family members.

#### **Research Mormon Battalion Association Documents in BYU Special Collections:**

- LTC Jamison: Research missing history of Mormon Battalion Association from late 1940s through late 1990s in the Special Collections, Harold B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University.

#### **Possible Alliance with Sons of Utah Pioneers:**

- Ashley Hall: Discuss situation with General Authorities.

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#### **Closing Remarks & Inspirational Thought**

**LTC Jamison**

On 28 January, I drove almost two hours from Orem up to Corrine, Utah to a Court of Honor for three Eagle Scouts. I've built a special bond with that community, going there six times in the past five years to present over a dozen Mormon Battalion Eagle Scout slides in that small farming community of 685 residents and two LDS wards on the fertile, meandering banks of the Bear River five miles before it flows into the northeastern reaches of the Great Salt Lake. I thought you might like to hear two stories about their Scouts.

The Corrine Scouts are very close, and look out for each other. They truly CARE. A year ago, we awarded an Eagle Rank posthumously to one who was killed by a car while crossing the highway through town. I just learned of two more Scout deaths there on New Year's Eve. One of the Scouts was recovering from brain surgery, and had just come home from the hospital. Two fellow Life Scouts decided to take him for a ride on their two dirt motorbikes in the dark on New Years Eve. They put a helmet on him, and took off. But he slipped on his back seat, and his host had to stop to readjust. The other biker got ahead, noticed that they weren't with him, and turned around to go back. They had a head on collision in the dark. One of the Scouts was killed instantly, and a second one died on the Life Flight helicopter to Salt Lake City. Two of the Scouts were Life and were just getting ready to do their Eagle projects. The Scoutmaster is talking to the Council about doing their projects anyway and awarding their Eagle Ranks posthumously. Three Scouts dead from the same troop in less than a year.... Their bishop said that they would get through it all by loving and serving each other. The Scouts really believe that!

I just heard the story of their Scoutmaster, Kurtis Edelman, while there. Over five years ago, he was an Army Infantry soldier coming home after a year in Iraq. They were out-processing in Kuwait when they got word that President Bush had ordered a "surge" into Iraq to wipe out the terrorists. So they turned around and went back to the battle of Falujah (sp?). Six months later, his Striker vehicle was hit by an IED. Only he and one other survived, and Kurtis suffered brain damage. He was discharged and went through months of rehabilitation. The doctors said that he would never be able to function in society again, but he kept trying, working on his short term memory. Then he got called to be the Scoutmaster

of his troop. It had only a couple of active Scouts. But he CARED about his Scouts, and they learned to love him. The more he worked with his Scouts, the better he got himself. In just over five years, he has revitalized his troop, helped over a dozen earn their Eagle, and now has over twenty active Scouts in his troop. Kurtis can't work, but he is an amazing, committed Scoutmaster.

The bottom line: There is something really special about caring service: It heals both the soul and the body. The more we service we give to others, the more blessings we receive from Our Savior. I miss my Linda who died last March, but serving others makes it better. We can never catch up with the Lord. And families aren't just everything, they are forever!

**Benediction**

**S GT David Jamiel**

**Next Executive Staff Meeting:**

**7:00 PM (new time), Thursday, 15 March 2018**  
Residence of LTC Max W. Jamison  
189 E. 1864 South  
Orem, UT 84058