

Mormon Battalion Association

Minutes – Executive Staff Planning Meeting

10:00 AM, Saturday, 17 August 2013

LTC Max Jamison Residence, 2854 N. Augusta Drive
Lehi, UT 84043

The Mormon Battalion Association Executive Staff meets at least once a 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 Staff will be notified of the change. Members of the public are invited to attend.

Executive Staff Members in Attendance: The minimum quorum of four was present: LTC Max Jamison (Battalion Commander), COL Carl V. Larson (Battalion Executive Officer), COL Jerome Gourley (Battalion Commander's Chief Advisor), and Margaret Larson (Membership Officer). Steven Rinehart (Judge Advocate General) were excused on personal business.

Executive Leadership: MAJ Val John Halford (Quartermaster/Logistics Officer) and MAJ Clark Olsen (Scouting Coordinator) were excused on personal business.

Welcome / Call to Order / Recognize Guests

LTC Max Jamison

Invocation

Margaret Larson

Minutes of Previous Meetings – Review and Approval

LTC Max Jamison

Reviewed and approved previously distributed March through early August minutes.

General Business

(Open discussion)

• **Recognition & Awards** – No report

• **Service Opportunities** – There are numerous service opportunities in the leadership of both Battalion and local units, as well as in our local communities.

• *Project Request Forms* – No report

• **Action Items Review:**

- LTC Max Jamison & COL Carl V. Larson: Recontact Oscar McConkie; send current copy of database to Oscar McConkie. *Discussed method of relocating address.*
- COL Carl V. Larson: Send letter of intent to University of Utah Special Collections Library requesting new transcript of Dr. Sanderson's Journal, and then coordinate with Kevin Henson. *Postponed.*
- Johnny Hayes: Respond to 8 August 2012 email from Robert Paul regarding our Museum at This Is the Place Heritage Park. *Transferred to LTC Jamison due to resignation. It is normal practice for exhibitors to self-insure. We paid for the insurance of for the Paul's personal property for two years.*
- COL Carl V. Larson and Kevin Henson: Create list of locations of original Battalion journals and their custodians so we can request/create new transcripts. Many journals are still in possession of descendant families. Once journals are located, seek opportunities to authenticate current transcriptions and/or retranscribe them, and then post results on website for public use. *In progress. COL Larson has locations of many of the original journals. Need to post journals and their retranscriptions on website as quickly as possible.*
- COL Jerome Gourley, COL Carl V. Larson, MAJ Clark Olsen, and Kevin Henson: Coordinate Graves Memorialization planning with LDS Scouting Representative for Milton Smith, whose gravesite is near Philmont Scout Ranch, New Mexico. *Postponed to 2014. COL Gourley to take lead due to proximity of his home.*
- COL Carl V. Larson, LTC Max Jamison, and Kevin Henson: Locate gravesite of George B. Sanderson, St. Louis, Missouri. Locate living descendants of Lewis Dent and George Sanderson to invite to graves memorialization. *Postponed indefinitely.*
- Kevin Henson and COL Carl V. Larson: Locate living descendants of two Battalion members in Michigan to invite to graves memorialization. *COL Larson and Kevin Henson to discuss placing ad in local Michigan newspaper.*

• **Membership Reports:**

1. 2013 Battalion Day Planning: COL Larson: Planning is progressing on agenda:

- *Annual Business Meeting at 10:00 am* – The centerpiece of past Battalion Days has always been our annual Business Meeting. This year's meeting will include a report from LTC Jamison on impact of new *Articles of Incorporation* and *Bylaws*. Review from Steven L. Rinehart, our Judge Advocate General, on our compliance with IRS and Utah State requirements for non-profit organizations. Report from COL Larson on graves memorialization process and plans for new graves markers. Reports from other officers on activities past and pending.
- *Drill Practice* – Reenactors to instruct us on proper procedures during parade.
- *Lunch* – Picnic lunch.
- *Cemeteries Tour* - COL Carl V. Larson to lead tour of Battalion gravesites in local Bluffdale and Draper graveyards. Ltc Jamison was given an action item to send email invitations to all interested parties.

Associated Organization Reports (in person, electronic, or via written report):

Battalion Trek – Kevin's been called back into the 11-year old Assistant Scoutmaster position. He hopes there will be a slow transfer of responsibility for the Scouts reenacting the Battalion as Kevin ages – gracefully.

Mormon Volunteers, "A" Company, Historic Reenactors – Eleven of their members (including two drummers) participated with us in the Days of 47 Parade on 24 July. They carried their historically accurate 6' x 6'-6" square Regimental Flag.

Sierra Nevada Mormon Pioneers – Received numerous reports on their activities. Seven of their members traveled from Northern California to participate in our flag detail at the SUP Sunrise Services and in the Days of 47 Parade on 24 July. They invited us to join them in their annual Sacramento Gold Rush Days on 30 August through 2 September 2013.

Sons of Utah Pioneers – While at SUP Sunrise Services on 24 July 2013, LTC Max Jamison received a verbal request from President David Wirthlin for a meeting, and responded via phone and email.

Friends of the Battalion – The Friends had a full slate of activities this summer, including participation in Riverton parade on 3 July, Sandy parade on 4 July, West Valley City celebration on 23-24 July, and Midvale parade on 10 August.

Mesa Company – Corresponded with CPT Owen Garner regarding relationship between our two organizations. In a recent meeting, they decided to commission a local sculptor to create their own Eagle Scout neckerchief slide based on the wild bulls of Arizona. We are so proud of them for the great job they are doing with the Christmas Camp on the original Battalion Trail! They go there three times a month (120 miles round trip each time) from October through April and tell the story of the Trail, and attend Scout courts of honor within an 80 mile radius of Mesa.

Local Unit Reports:

Albuquerque: Blaine Bachman: "We the few here in New Mexico continue to engage Church members and the public with our participation at MB-related activities.

"The first week of June, I asked Ron Kirkpatrick (LDS and friend of Kevin Henson - but not an MBA member to my knowledge) to take my place, and don his period civilian clothing and MB gear to head up a Battalion based fireside held in conjunction with one of the Albuquerque Stakes' youth Trek event in the desert near Socorro, NM. He reported that the reception was great and many questions were asked (and answered).

"The following week, I traveled to southern Colorado to participate briefly in the Albuquerque West Stake's Trek which included my portrayal of CPT Allen and the raising of the battalion and its removal from the remainder of the group for a spell.

"In both cases we reminded the youth that the Battalion story preceded the Handcart Era by some ten years.

"On July 4th, I (as a Dragoon captain) and a young man (as a Mexican war-era U.S. infantryman) represented the Expansionist Period in a historical time line formation in the Corrales, NM Independence Day Parade. The period covered by the formation spanned Native Americans, Spanish Colonists, Revolutionary War (NM's connection to

the Rev War: King Carlos III 'asked' his subjects in New Spain to give the equivalent of \$1-2 in goods to the Colonies' revolution effort), War of 1812, Mexican-American War, Civil War, and Indian Wars.

"I am currently working overtime to coordinate various events at the Great Southwest Council's LDS-BSA 100th Anniversary Encampment. Interestingly, the theme gravitated towards the MB with absolutely no assistance on my part. Ron Kirkpatrick is also helping with this event.

"Finally, on General Conference weekend I will again be joined by the Corps of Topographical Engineers and various US and Mexican reenactors in conducting living history activities at El Rancho del las Golondrinas' Harvest Festival weekend."

Ogden – No report

Logan – No report

California "B" Company – No report

California North – No report

California Orange County – No report

Cedar City – Bob Tingey: "Although I was not able to make it to the SLC parade on the 24th of July, I met a Larry Biliou who is into Civil War Reenactments and interested in the Mormon Battalion. We marched in the Cedar City 24th parade, leading a LDS Young Single Adult Float with a missionary theme. Larry has ancestors in Battalion, so that was announced with a good recognition of the Association. We carried the flag that was made and carried during the 2008 reenactment. Larry and I will work with Steve Olson (works at Iron Mission State Park) to try and rustle up some more interest in some meeting in Cedar City."

Dixie – CPT Bob Wood requested a supply of Eagle slides. He is currently receiving them from Col Jerome Gourley, who maintains an Eagle Kit in our behalf. LTC Jamison was given and action item to write a letter to CPT Wood.

Eastern Idaho– No report

White Mountain – Received requests for several Eagle slides.

Battalion Commander's Advisory Staff:

Judge Advocate General:

Recovery of Intellectual Property Held by Johnny Hayes and Anthon Jeppesen: It has now been over three months since the abrupt resignations of Johnny Hayes and Anthon Jeppesen as our Executive Directors of business administration and as members of the Battalion during our 18 May 2013 Executive Staff Meeting. They failed to provide any transitional meetings or training, and claimed to have returned all Battalion materials in their possession by 25 May 2013, but omitted at least the following items:

- all logs of emails maintained by them in our behalf,
- all written correspondence, documents, and contracts entered in our behalf with i4 Solutions, Facebook, PayPal, SymbolArt, Baer Bronze, Pole Sound, etc.,
- finished applications, brochures, and forms prepared in our behalf,
- any record of their reported two years of research with 40 advisers and consultants resulting in their 20 October 2012 proposed replacements for our *Articles of Incorporation* and *Bylaws*,
- all records of their 12 year audit of Battalion financial and membership records we commissioned at the 17 March 2012 change of command,
- a working copy of our QuickBooks financial database.

After repeated refusal to return these items per Sections 4.04, 5.04(h), 5.06, and 6.01 of the *Policy Manual* (which they authored), they on 10 July 2013 notified us that they had retained a lawyer and instructed us to correspond with him. Since then, neither they nor their lawyer have responded to our requests.

Continental Support Staff Reports:

Senior Executive Director (Internal Affairs)/Adjutant General: No report

Quartermaster/Logistics Officer:

1. Product Descriptions and Pricing: See attached list. We have had slow responses from SymbolArt, Baer Bronze, and Mark Stewart regarding their product descriptions and pricing for posting on our website.

2. Recovery of Copyrighted Intellectual Property: We recently learned that the supplier used by MAJ Don Schurtz had continued to sell our copyrighted, but obsolete Eagle neckerchief slide molds to unauthorized recipients after his move to California in 2010 – some as late as January 2013. We retired Don’s design in March 2011, and have been using a new design since May 2011. LTC Max Jamison recovered the master mold and all remaining copies on 28 June 2013. No one is authorized to reproduce our copyrighted intellectual property, including those retired slides. Our intellectual property may only be purchased from our website or our representatives having authorized Eagle Kits.

3. Closure of Storage Unit – We have decided to close our storage unit. COL Carl V. Larson will move all items from the storage unit to LTC Jamison’s basement prior to expiration of our lease on 23 August.

4. Transfer of Mailbox and Official Address – We closed our PostNet mailbox and official address in West Valley City. They wanted \$180.00 per year, and LTC Max Jamison had to drive over 35 miles round trip every week to get our mail. LTC Max Jamison did some research and found that his local Lehi UPS Store provided the same service for only \$108.00 per year. Even with the one-time \$10.00 fee for our key, we are saving \$62.00 per year, plus the reduction in personal time and expense driving to West Valley City. The UPS Store will custom package and ship items from our Quartermaster Store and ship the most economical way. It's a win, win, win situation. Effective 31 July 2013, our new mailbox and official address is:

770 East Main St, #344
Lehi, UT 84043

Chief Finance Officer:

Restoration of QuickBooks Files: After two months of efforts and several false starts, we have successfully recovered our QuickBooks backup files left on our external hard drive with assistance of Intuit consultants, and have successfully downloaded bank transactions from Zion’s Bank accounts. We now need to update all activity since 21 April 2013. QuickBooks is capable of downloading data from multiple bank accounts.

Junior Executive Director (External Affairs)/Public Relations Commandant:

Internet Officer:

1. Website Restructuring with i4 Solutions – Several week delay in getting corrections to existing website and bid.

2. Restoration of PayPal Link to Website: i4 Solutions has reestablished PayPal link to website, but still working on receipt of notices of payment. Received \$500.00 donation from Hancock Family Organization and several payments for Eagle Scout neckerchief slides.

Graves Memorialization Staff:

New Business

(Open to Floor)

1. Creation of New Board of Directors: Per our new *Articles* and *Bylaws*, we request your nominations for 7-10 civic leaders friendly to the Battalion to be appointed Directors on our new Board of Directors until regular elections are held in September 2014. They need not be current members of the Battalion or reside in Utah, but are required to hold at least one meeting per year to conduct Battalion business and adjudicate such policy issues as may be brought before it by the Executive Staff. COL Jerome Gourley will seek candidates in Southern Utah, while the rest of the Executive Staff will seek candidates in Northern Utah.

• **2. Expansion of Battalion Executive Staff:** Section 2.01 of our new *Articles* and Section 5.01 of our new *Bylaws* state that the Executive Staff is to comprise a *minimum* of the Battalion Commander, Battalion Executive Officer, and two Executive Directors. By unanimous vote, the Executive Staff approved its expansion to include the following:

a. *Current senior leaders of our Battalion Continental Support Staff:*

1. MAJ Clark Olsen – S2 - Community Relations Liaison (an expansion of his duties as Scouting Relations Officer), and

2. MAJ Val John Halford – S4 - Quartermaster/Logistics Officer.
- b. *Future senior leaders of our Battalion Continental Support Staff:*
 1. S8 - Chief Finance Officer (we request your nominations for such).
- c. *Future members of the Battalion Commander's Advisory Staff:*
 1. Chief of Chaplains (as an alternate voting member, we request your nominations for such)
 2. Inspector(s) General (as nonvoting advisors, we request your nominations for such), and
 3. Representatives of Associate Member and Family Groups (as nonvoting advisors).

We tabled discussion of a proposal to retitle the two Executive Directors of the Continental Support Staff:

- Senior Executive Director (Internal Affairs) / S1 - Adjutant General, and
- Junior Executive Director (External Affairs) / S7 - Public Relations Commandant.

3. Reports on Formation of Member Advisory Committees: We formed the following member advisory committees:

- *Scouting Relations Committee* - to support our Eagle Scout neckerchief slide presentations, and other awards. MAJ Clark Olsen will continue as Chair, with full authority to appoint members of the committee.
- *Graves Memorialization Committee* - to find and memorialize the graves of original Battalion members. COL Carl V. Larson will continue as Chair, with full authority to appoint members of the committee.
- *Historians Committee* - to learn about the people and times of the original Battalion, including lots of Trail research such as the "invisible" civilian camp followers such as drovers, suttlers, civilian assistants, Mexican fellow travelers, and kind native American benefactors. We appointed Kevin Henson as our Senior Historian, and Chair of this committee, with full authority to appoint members of the committee.
- *Men's Uniform Committee* - to design four levels of "Battalion Approved" men's uniforms:
 Class B Uniforms = affordable, but recognizable "modern" basic white shirts, tan slacks, and tan shoulder sashes for wear in meetings and on service projects
 Class A Uniforms = addition of "modern" Nehru black jacket to Class B Uniform for Eagle slide presentations
 Flag and Parade Honor Guard = dress enlisted or reenactor uniforms for flag ceremonies and parades
 Reenactor Uniforms = full blown reenactor uniforms (with muskets for men) for reenactments
 We appointed MAJ Val John Halford, our Quartermaster/Logistics Officer, as Chair of this committee, with full authority to appoint members of the committee.
- *Women's Dress Committee* - to design "Battalion Approved" women's reenactor dresses for reenactments. We appointed Kayla Willey and Wendy Sorenson Co-chairs of this committee, with full authority to appoint members of the committee.
- *Battalion Flag Committee* - The silk blue flag currently produced by Dixie Company is based on the white flag in the Church History Museum. That flag has no provenance, but is likely a Days of 47 parade flag from the late 1800s or early 1900s. We actually have no idea what unit flag the original Battalion may or may not have carried, but we want to design and produce our own durable, modern Mormon Battalion Association flags. One possibility would be to replicate the 6 foot x 6 foot six inch square Regimental Flag with a small canton of 24 stars and 13 red and white stripes carried by our reenactors in this year's Days of 47 Parade. We appointed Mike Anderson as Chair of this committee, with full authority to appoint members of the committee.

4. Recruiting New College Aged Units: After lots of prayerful consideration, it dawned on us that the membership of the original Battalion comprised the best and brightest service oriented young adults (average age 27) available - equivalent to today's college students. We are making a major recruiting effort of this age group - starting with the four largest universities in Utah. We request your assistance in this effort.

5. Recruiting University Staffs for *The Valiant Journal*: We are actively recruiting the new staff for our biannual academic journal, slated to begin publication in 2014. In October, they will publish articles from our annual June symposia; and in April will publish winning essays from our youth essay contests and other peer-reviewed academic articles about the original and current Battalion. We request your assistance in this effort.

- ❑ LTC Max Jamison & COL Carl V. Larson: Recontact Oscar McConkie; send current copy of database to Oscar McConkie. *LTC Jamison to find mailing address through his former law offices.*
- ❑ COL Carl V. Larson: Send letter of intent to University of Utah Special Collections Library requesting new transcript of Dr. Sanderson's Journal, and then coordinate with Kevin Henson. *Postponed.*
- ❑ LTC Max Jamison: Respond to 8 August 2012 email from Robert Paul regarding our Museum at This Is the Place Heritage Park. *It is normal practice for exhibitors to self-insure. We paid for the insurance of for the Paul's personal property for two years.*
- ❑ COL Carl V. Larson and Kevin Henson: Create list of locations of original Battalion journals and their custodians so we can request/create new transcripts. Many journals are still in possession of descendant families. Once journals are located, seek opportunities to authenticate current transcriptions and/or retranscribe them, and then post results on website for public use. *In progress. COL Larson has locations of many of the original journals. Need to post journals and their re-transcriptions on website as quickly as possible.*
- ❑ COL Jerome Gourley, COL Carl V. Larson, MAJ Clark Olsen, and Kevin Henson: Coordinate Graves Memorialization planning with LDS Scouting Representative for Milton Smith, whose gravesite is near Philmont Scout Ranch, New Mexico. *Postponed to 2014. COL Gourley to take lead due to proximity of his home.*
- ❑ COL Carl V. Larson, LTC Max Jamison, and Kevin Henson: Locate gravesite of George B. Sanderson, St. Louis, Missouri. Locate living descendants of Lewis Dent and George Sanderson to invite to graves memorialization. *Postponed indefinitely.*
- ❑ Kevin Henson and COL Carl V. Larson: Locate living descendants of two Battalion members in Michigan to invite to graves memorialization. *COL Larson and Kevin Henson to discuss placing ad in local Michigan newspaper.*
- ❑ LTC Max Jamison and Margaret Larson – Start contacting membership to collect dues and determine areas in which they wish to serve. Based on information received, LTC Max Jamison will reorganize the membership into squads, sections, platoons, and companies.
- ❑ LTC Max Jamison was given an action item to send email invitations to our 22 October Battalion Days all interested parties.
- ❑ LTC Max Jamison was given an action item to write a letter to CPT Wood regarding Dixie Company's annual budget needs.

Closing Remarks

LTC Max Jamison

Inspirational Thought

None

Benediction / Adjournment

COL Carl V. Larson

Next Executive Staff Meeting:

10:00 am-noon, Saturday, 21 September 2013
 Residence of LTC Max W. Jamison
 2854 N. Augusta Drive
 Lehi, UT 84043