

**MORMON BATTALION ASSOCIATION  
ADVISORY STAFF MEETING  
20 September 2008 - 10:40 a.m.  
420 South 800 East, Salt Lake City, UT 84102**

DRAFT

- Conducting:** Col Norman T. Erekson
- Invocation:** MAJ Glade Nelson
- Pledge:** MAJ Clark Olsen
- Attending:** Col Norman T. Erekson, MAJ Richard Bullock, LTC Max Jamison, LTC Gaylen Maynes, MAJ Clark Olsen, MAJ Don Schurtz, MAJ Doug Williams, MAJ Glade Nelson, MAJ Tom Coyne, MAJ Val Halford.
- Excused:** MAJ John Hayes, CAPT LaVar Burton, CAPT Earl Gillmore, LTC Bob Paul, MAJ Stan Fitts, MAJ Roger Grua, LTC Jerome Gorley and the Women’s Auxiliary.
1. **Welcome:** Col Norman T. Erekson
  2. **Minutes:** MAJ Richard Bullock submitted the minutes of 16 August 2008 for approval. A motion to accept the minutes was made by LTC Max Jamison, seconded by MAJ Don Schurtz. Vote passed.
  3. **Calendar:** The calendar was presented by MAJ Richard Bullock. Heritage Day 2009 was added.
  4. **Members:** MAJ Richard Bullock presented the names of 1st LT Thomas Jessop of St. George, Steven Arthur Hunt of Santa Clara, and Wayne K. Brown of Riverdale, UT as new annual members. A motion to accept these new members was made by LTC Gaylen Maynes, seconded by MAJ Doug Williams. A vote to accept these members passed.
  5. **Finances:** MAJ Tom Coyne reported that August cash increased \$561.49. LTC Gaylen Maynes reported that the recent financial shakeup in Washington and Wall Street should not effect our accounts in Wells Fargo or Zions Bank. A motion to accept the financial reports was made by LTC Max Jamison, seconded by MAJ Richard Bullock. Vote passed.
  6. **Valiant:** LTC Max Jamison reported that the next *Valiant* would be published in a week or two. He needs more Company articles.

7. **Elections:** COL Erekson read the results of the elections as follows:  
Referendum to change the By-Laws passed by a majority vote.

New officers, starting October 1, 2008 and running through October 1, 2010 are as follows:

National Commander -	Norman T. Erekson
Executive Officer -	Jerome Gourley
Adjutant -	Richard H. Bullock
Finance Officer -	Glade I. Nelson
Membership Officer -	Erma R. Bullock
Publicity Officer -	John Hayes

Additional changes and appointments to the positions of Publications Officer and Multimedia Officer will be made by COL Erekson and all officers will be sworn into office by Chaplin Roger Grua at our next meeting on 18 October 2008. COL Erekson offered a tribute of thank you to MAJ Tom Coyne for his fine performance as Finance Officer over the past several years.

8. **Trek 2008:** COL Erekson reported that the Trek is on schedule as they approach the border of Oklahoma. Had a wonderful reception in Kansas.

He then made mention of a recent email inquiry about John Brown of Tennessee. The inquiry wanted to know if he had been in the Battalion. VP Erma Bullock researched and responded that her ancestor had not been a member of the Battalion but that he had led 14 families from Mississippi on 8 April 1846, now known as the Mississippi Saints, and they were directed at Fort Laramie to turn south for the winter. They arrived at El Pueblo, CO on 7 August. John Brown then made a trip along the Arkansas river with seven men on 1 September to find out where Brigham Young was located. Eleven days later they met A. J. Smith and the Mormon Battalion. Thus Lt. Smith learned about westering Mormon families at Pueblo. He had no problem in deciding to send the three sick detachments to Pueblo as he knew they would be greeted by fellow Mormons. There had been a Battalion member named John Brown, but he made the march to California and was not related to her ancestor.

MAJ Val Halford passed around photos of his trip to Ft. Leavenworth and Bents Fort, where the Battalion supplies had been shipped by the Army. Bent's Fort is near El Pueblo.

9. **Building:** COL Erekson reported that Phase I is coming along. The rough plans have been finished and concrete work will begin in October.

A Mormon Battalion choir has been proposed in the Executive

meeting and Norma Bench has been called to act as a liaison with Floyd Rigby in determining the feasibility of such a venture. The choir may take over the designation of Company A which is no longer being active.

10. **Company Reports:**

Company B: MAJ Don Schurtz reported that they had recently had a speaker that had traveled from Oregon to the Carolinas by bicycle.

Company C: MAJ Clark Olsen reported that the picnic at Trace Skeen's went very well, with 45-50 persons in attendance. He requested LDS leadership help in getting all the Wards to not hold Eagle Court's on Sundays, a rule from the past that is not being adhered to at present. The next meeting will have a speaker to discuss the Bear River massacre. He also indicated that he may have access to James S. Brown's Mississippi Co. rifle/musket and would like MAJ Val Halford to help him authenticate it.

Company D: Nothing reported.

Company E: CAPT Earl Gillmore has been diagnosed with liver cancer.

Ship *Brooklyn*: MAJ Richard Bullock reported the creation of a new painting depicting the ship Brooklyn in San Francisco harbor by Dorothy Kennedy. He has ordered a giclee and hopes to have it for the next meeting.

Dixie Co. COL Erikson reports that they are very active in the St. George area.

11. **Other:** COL Erikson reports that the groups in California have asked for the Mormon Battalion to support Proposition 8 against gay marriage. By the rules of our Articles of Incorporation we are forbidden to support or oppose any political cause.

Perhaps we can organize a tour bus to San Diego in January. TBA

**Benediction:** MAJ Tom Coyne      **Dismissed:** 11:50 a.m.