

# Mormon Battalion Association

## Minutes – Executive Staff Meeting 10:00 AM, Saturday, 20 September 2014

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 Staff 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, but – in the interest of expediency – we will only discuss those items the Executive Staff deems necessary. Also, detailed discussion of Action Items will be referenced to equivalent sections in Membership Reports, Member Advisory Committee Reports, and New Business.

**Executive Staff Attendance:** The following were present: LTC Max W. Jamison (Battalion Commander), COL Carl V. Larson (Battalion Executive Officer), and Margaret Larson (Membership Officer). Excused: COL Jerome G. Gourley (Battalion Commander's Chief Advisor), MAJ Val John Halford (Quartermaster/Logistics Officer), MAJ Clark Olsen (Community Relations Liaison), and Steven L. Rinehart (Judge Advocate General).

**Leadership and Guest Attendance:** MAJ John Bascom.

**Welcome / Call to Order / Recognize Guests / Administrative Items** **LTC Max W. Jamison**

**Invocation** **X**

**Pledge of Allegiance** **None**

### **Minutes of 22 August 2014 Executive Staff Meeting – Approved**

#### **General Business**

##### **● Recognition & Awards**

None.

##### **● Service Opportunities**

numerous member advisory committees

##### **● Project Request Forms**

No *Project Request Forms* and *Annual Budget Request Forms* have been received from local units. We welcome your input on a list of potential projects in which local units can become involved. We need these forms for historical and IRS documentation purposes.

##### **● Action Item Review**

#### **Leadership:**

- All: Recruit civic and community leaders to serve on our new **Board of Directors**.
- 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**) in September-October 2014, who will stand for election for two years. *See New Business below.*
- LTC Jamison: Create and send cover letter, *Membership Forms*, and *Nomination Forms* to all current and former members for general elections. *See New Business below.*
- All: Recruit and vet a new **Chief Finance Officer**, preferably a CPA already familiar with QuickBooks.

### Recruiting:

- LTC Jamison: Follow up with representatives of University of Utah and Brigham Young University regarding recruiting of new college aged units.
- LTC Jamison: Follow up with four local universities to recruit university staffs for *The Valiant Journal*.
- COL and Mrs Larson, James Waite: Visit with CPT James Hansen to reactivate Logan Squad (aka “D” Company).

### Journals Transcription:

- ☒ COL 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. *Kevin Henson: The new transcription of Dr. Sanderson’s journal is being finalized. One final ‘check’ pass through the text by a church history volunteer will be conducted. It is my intent to publish the edited journal with footnotes in 2015 and in time for the 170<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battalion’s enlistment. I’ve passed along my current list of journals to Col Carl Larson. We haven’t discussed who will do what with this information or when.*

### Graves Memorialization:

- COL Gourley, COL Larson, MAJ Olsen, and Kevin Henson: Coordinate Graves Memorialization planning with LDS Scouting Representative and Philmont Scout Ranch Representative for **Milton Smith** gravesite near Philmont Scout Ranch, New Mexico. COL Gourley to take lead due to proximity of his home, and will arrange to set marker in concrete onsite. *Kevin Henson: Have heard nothing from the group about plans/actions taken. Therefore, unless informed otherwise, I will be contacting staff at Philmont Boy Scout Ranch to coordinate local research and determine if and when a memorial might be erected on Philmont property.*
- COL Larson, LTC Jamison, and Kevin Henson: Locate living descendants of **Lewis Dent** and **Dr. George Sanderson** to invite to graves memorialization. COL Larson to research placing ad in local St. Louis newspaper. *Kevin Henson: With the assistance of the LDS Family History staff, we have determined that there are NO living descendants of Dr. George B. Sanderson. I am in contact with Fort Leavenworth Public Affairs Officer to initiate obtaining a marker for Sanderson. Ltc Jamison sent the following letter to the First Presidency:*

Dear Brethren,

When David O. McKay asked his Huntsville neighbor, Fred M. Reese, to form a modern Mormon Battalion in the late 1940s, he gave him four charters. The very first one was to “enable our present day members to do genealogy and research work ...of the original group.”

Our organization has been compiling historical records for Mormon Battalion members, the Army officers appointed to lead the Battalion, and other men associated with the Battalion’s story.

We have identified a number of men (and their families) for whom temple work has never been completed – now some 170 years following their service to the country and the Church. Our impression is that if possible, the temple work should be done.

With the assistance of Family History Library researchers, we have identified some lines that are completely extinct; there are no living relatives from whom we could get permission.

Family History Library leadership has directed us that the proper procedure is to request First Presidency authorization to perform ordinances for individuals we’ve identified with no relatives. We regret having to bother you with this item, but want to follow the rules in place.

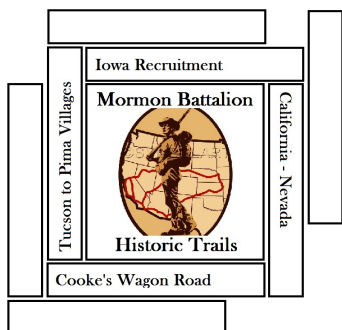
- COL Larson and Kevin Henson: Locate living descendants of **Thomas P. Dutcher** and **William Reynolds (Reynolds)** in Michigan to invite to graves memorialization. Contact historical organizations in Michigan. *Kevin Henson: Slow progress with Dutcher family. Not ready to make any plans.*
- Peter D. Guilbert and Sierra Nevada Mormon Pioneers: Assist with graves memorialization in California.

**Documentation:**

- LTC Jamison: Find software to translate audio recordings of our meetings from Apple format to Microsoft format, so we can transcribe them verbatim, and recreate minutes.

**Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Award:**

- Kevin Henson: Create a small committee to redesign patch and update requirements list, booklet, and appropriate bibliographic/resource documentation and provide to the BSA National Trails Office, the LDS/BSA Relations Office, and the Battalion’s webmaster for use on their websites. This committee should make a diligent



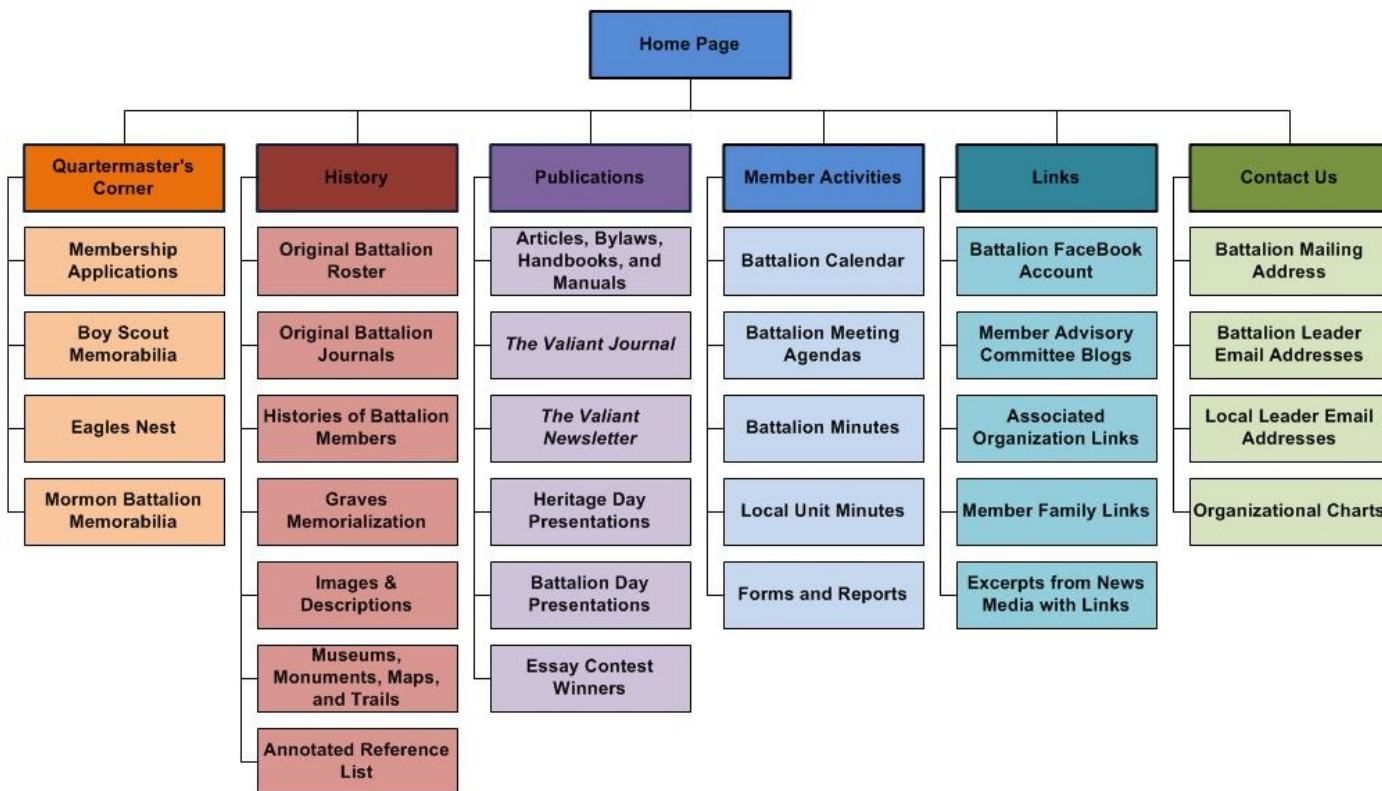
search of the internet to identify the sources of outdated copies of the Award and replace them with links to the new Award on the Mormon Battalion Association website. *LTC Jamison: CPT Blaine Bachman, Commander of our Albuquerque local unit, has volunteered to serve on our Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Award Member Advisory Committee. Due to the potential number of trail segments, we have decided to rename the award the “Mormon Battalion Historic Trails Award.” Kevin Henson has recommended that we make the “core” patch square rather than oval shaped so we can spiral numerous color coded segment awards outward around the core patch. He is designing a new white map showing the various Battalion routes which can be used on the patch. LTC Jamison has recommended using same colors as on website Site Map. (See below.)*

*Kevin Henson: I am in the process of creating a “new” trails map suitable for use on a paper handout. Hope to have a ‘final’ version ready for deployment by month’s end. A different version of the map could be used on-line or for other digital presentations. FYI - I also have an “animated”*

*MS PowerPoint representation of the Battalion routes. Suitable for use with AV events. Call me for further information.*

- COL Gourley: Ask Elder D. Todd Christofferson to find General Authority contact to coordinate LDS participation in BSA Mormon Battalion Trail Award after Mormon Battalion Association takes over. *See Scouting Relations Committee Report below.*

**Mormon Battalion Association Website Site Map**



**Website Release 3.0:**

□ LTC Jamison and Website Design Member Advisory Committee: Continue design of Release 3.0 of our website. *In process. We will soon be going live with the long awaited Release 3.0 of our website. We will gradually flesh out the website over the next few months, but the following tabs will be the first to go active:*

*Quartermaster's Corner – PayPal connections for online Membership applications, plus all of our Mormon Battalion and Boy Scout Memorabilia (including stubs for our new Mormon Battalion Trail Award and Segment Awards). After years of failing to deliver in Releases 1.0 and 2.0, we will finally be able to market all of our products!*

*History – Transferred the following from our old website: Short History of the Mormon Battalion, Original Battalion Roster, Histories of Battalion Members submitted by their descendants, Battalion Music, data on our Museum and Monuments, and the Annotated Reference List. Kevin Henson will shortly be submitting his final map of the various Battalion Trails (which we will use in our new Mormon Battalion Trail Award).*

*Publications – Inserted the current Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and issues of The Valiant Newsletter. Posting of our General Handbook awaits copyright release for several drawings.*

*Member Activities – Inserted most of our old Battalion Meeting Agendas Battalion Minutes, and the current Annual Budget Request form.*

*Links – Inserted links to our FaceBook page and several Associated Organizations.*

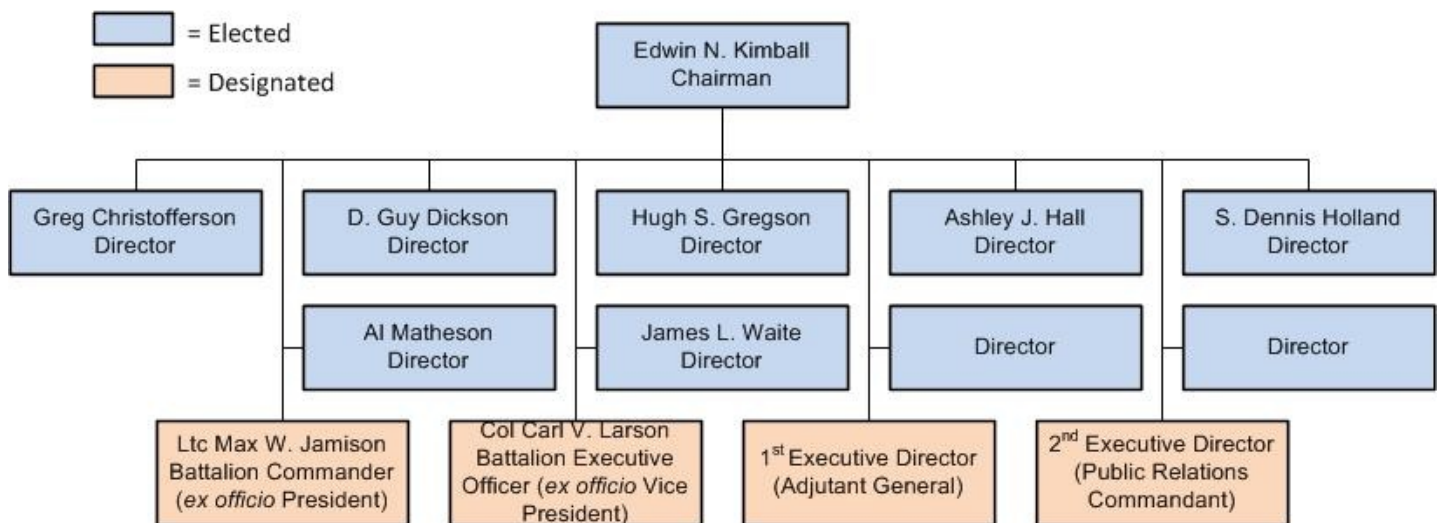
*Contact Us – Inserted Battalion Mailing Address, Battalion Commander email address, and numerous Organizational Charts.*

**• Membership Reports**

**1. Board of Directors:** Your nominations for the remaining two Director positions and the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Executive Directors of business administration are welcome. The Board has appointed COL Gourley to be their Executive Secretary.

# Mormon Battalion Association

## Board of Directors



**Associate Organization Reports:**

**1. Battalion Trek – Kevin Henson:** [Insert]

**2. Mormon Battalion Volunteers, Utah Living History Association – MAJ Val John Halford:** Company A of the Mormon Battalion Volunteers will participate in a Mexican-American War reenactment at the Ranchos de las Golodrinas in New Mexico during the first week in October. This location is not far from Santa Fe, where the original Battalion was entrusted to the leadership of LTC Philip St. George Cooke. The reenactment group also plans to visit a number of historic sites including a roadside monument to the Mormon Battalion located southeast of

Santa Fe near the Santo Domingo Pueblo frontage road to Highway 85. (See invitation on pages 3-4 of 19 July 2014 Minutes.)

**3. Sierra Nevada Mormon Pioneers – Peter D. Guilbert:**

*5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Presentation, Sunday, 31 August 2014 – Marysville, California.*

*Auburn Stake Historic Fair, Saturday, 6 September 2014 – Nevada City Building.*

*Gold Rush Live, Thursday through Sunday, 9-12 October 2014. – Coloma, California.* All of the exhibitors will be across the street behind the museum. Anyone participating needs to fill out and return the form by fax or email ASAP. It will be similar to Columbia Diggins with a portal to go through to get into the main encampment. There is a meeting on Friday, 22 August from 6:00-8:30. They would like you to attend if you are going to the event. There was a sign-up and you need to let them know you are coming and bring a salad or some other dish since it is potluck. They want all presentations in the first person. Dennis Amaral is trying to get permission to set up next to the Mormon Cabin. Dennis will send further info. They might want us to set up on Thurs. and Fri. If we don't have enough people to set up on Thurs., we will just staff the cabin on Thur. and Fri. and set up on Sat.

Miscellaneous:

Dennis reports that some of the logs have been delivered on the new mill. The foundation is in, the supports are in and the structure should go up in one day since it is prefab.

A tree fell on the Ide Adobe and basically knocked down part of the house. State hasn't decided if they will rebuild it.

**4. Sons of Utah Pioneers:** Received numerous reports.

**5. Friends of the Battalion:** No report.

**6. Mormon Battalion Arizona (Mesa Company):** No report. (Very active with Christmas Camp activities.)

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 “D” Company) – CPT James Hansen:** No report.

**Ogden Section (aka “C” Company):** No report.

**Salt Lake Section/Squad (aka “A” and “B” Companies):** No report.

**Utah South Platoon – LTC Jerry Harris:** No report.

**Albuquerque Squad – CPT Blaine Bachman:** No report.

**Cedar City Squad – CPT Robert Tingey:** Al Matheson: I was just asked if I could/would sponsor a monument to the Mormon Battalion in our Cedar City Veterans Park. I think the answer is yes, over to you, and how do we go about it. I think this is a significant honor, in that the existing park is one of the most beautiful veteran's parks in the State, if not in the Western states. I presume the verbiage is in your court, I can make arrangements for the plaque in bronze or alodyne (<\$1,000.00) made here in Utah at cost. Things like the design and architecture are cardinal if not critical, however....The people here are SERIOUS about the Mormon Battalion Memorial, I have access through the SUP for the metal work and facilities, If we are going to do it, we need to do it well. The Sons of Utah Pioneers have voted to lend their full support and to pay for a plaque. I can coordinate that. Glade Hamblin in the Rotary Club is chair for the project.

**St. George Section (aka Dixie Company) – CPT Robert Wood:** CPT Wood has made a number of Eagle Scout Slide presentations.

**White Mountain Section – 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.



## Member Advisory Committee Reports:

1. **Battalion Flag Committee – Mike Anderson, Chair:** No Report.
2. **Graves Memorialization Committee – COL Carl V. Larson, Chair:**
  - a. **Dr. George Sanderson – Kevin Henson –** No report.
  - b. **Milton Smith – Kevin Henson –** No report.
  - c. **Thomas P. Dutcher and William Reynolds (Reynolds) – Kevin Henson –** No report.
3. **Historians Committee – Kevin Henson, Chair:**
  - a. **Journals Transcription:** Margaret Larson: After I had r\*etranscribed about two thirds of the journal, Kevin sent me a copy of the entire transcription that he did, and I checked his transcription against the original and sent it back to him. I'm not sure what he further intends to do with it. Basically what we have is a new transcription (Kevin's, checked by me) to compare with the old transcription.
4. **Membership Committee – Margaret Larson, Chair:** LTC Jamison: The one man job of extracting membership data and inserting it into four different forms is daunting. At best, I am able to mail 6-8 packets per day. I have been able to send out 58 membership packets to date. I am working my way through the list, going in first name order. I'm up to the G's now. **I see no alternative to extending our deadlines one month:**
  - **10 October 2014** – Deadline for each Lifetime Individual Member of the Mormon Battalion Association in good standing to submit a completed, signed, and dated Membership Form to be eligible to cast one vote in the September Battalion-level general elections. Also deadline for properly registered members of the Mormon Battalion Association to submit a completed copy of the attached Nomination Form recommending other properly registered members in good standing for election to the offices of Battalion Commander (*ex officio* President of Board) and Battalion Executive Officer (*ex officio* Vice President of Board).
  - **15 October 2014** – Deadline for Board of Directors to mail Official Ballots to members registered by 10 October.
  - **1 November 2014** – Deadline for receipt of completed Official Ballots by Board of Directors.
  - **15 November 2014** – Board of Directors to meet at 11:00 AM to count Official Ballots. Winners will be announced during our Annual Business Meeting at noon. The new Battalion Commander and Battalion Executive Officer will be sworn in at that meeting or as soon as possible thereafter to serve two years from November 2014 through October 2016. LTC Jamison to find location for meeting in Lehi.

To date, we have received responses from 20 members plus six dead letter returns. Of the 20 responses, we have only received two nominations for Battalion Commander, John Bascomb and myself. John is willing, but his employment in Utah did not pan out, and he plans on moving back to California. I'm not sure if we are yet capable of operating with an “out of area” Battalion Commander. And Carl and I do not plan on running.

In a recent meeting, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to place any Lifetime Members who do not return signed *Membership Forms* reaffirming their membership in an inactive status with no rights. After the elections, the new Battalion Commander will send a letter to all inactive members inviting them to reactivate their membership by submitting a signed *Membership Form*. We will also notify all members that we are going paperless, using hardcopy by special request only.

Incidentally, I received a letter from Erma and Richard Bullock, the 2014-15 President and Treasurer of **Friends of the Battalion**, in response to our membership letters. They stated: "We will not be participating in any way in your association, but we are glad you are looking at being restructured, and we will always know that we are Lifetime

Members." They are apparently unaware that we completed our restructuring over a year ago. Their Lifetime Membership is inactive due to their failure/refusal to return completed *Membership Forms*.

**5. Scouting Relations Committee – MAJ Clark Olson, Chair:**

a. **Mormon Battalion Trail Award – LTC Jamison:** James Christopherson, a member of our Board of Directors, will ask Elder D. Todd Christofferson to find a General Authority liaison for Mormon Battalion Association takeover of administration of the Mormon Battalion Trail Award from the Boy Scouts.

**6. Men’s Uniform Committee – MAJ Val John Halford, Chair:** No report.

**7. Women’s Dress Committee – Kayla Willey and Wendy Sorenson, Co-chairs:** No report.

● **Continental Support Staff Reports:**

**1. Quartermaster/Logistics Report – MAJ Halford:** No report.

**2. Acting Finance Officer Report – LTC Jamison:** Our financial status continues to improve. A separate monthly finance report is being emailed to the Board of Directors and Executive Staff.

New Business (Open to Floor)

x.

Projected Action Items

x

Closing Remarks & Inspirational Thought LTC Max W. Jamison

Benediction / Adjournment X

Next Executive Staff Meeting (Annual Business Meeting):

10:00 am-noon, Saturday, 18 October 2014  
Location TBD