

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

**Conducting:** Col Norman T. Erekson

**Invocation:** Roselyn Slade

**Pledge:** MAJ Don Schurtz

**Attending:** Col Norman T. Erekson, MAJ Richard Bullock, MAJ Don Schurtz, CAPT LaVar Burton, VP Erma Bullock, PRES Anne Erekson,, MAJ Val John Halford., LTC Max Jamison, MAJ Tom Coyne, Elaine Erekson, LTC Gaylen Maynes, Kayla Willey, CAPT Earl Gillmore, MAJ Clark Olsen.

**Excused:** LTC Jerome Gorley, MAJ Roger Grua, MAJ John Hayes.

1. **Welcome:** Col Norman T. Erekson
2. **Minutes:** MAJ Richard Bullock submitted the minutes of 15 March 2008 for approval. A motion to accept the minutes was made by VP Erma Bullock, seconded by PRES Annie Erekson. Vote passed.
3. **Calendar:** The revised calendar was presented by MAJ Richard Bullock.
4. **Members:** VP Erma Bullock presented the name of Ned A. Newman as a Life Member, Bob Tingey of Enoch, Utah as a new annual member, with Jerry Anderson and Blaine Bachman as renewal members. A motion to accept these members was made by VP Erma Bullock, seconded by CAPT Earl Gillmore. A vote to accept these members passed.
5. **Finances:** MAJ Tom Coyne reported that revenues were \$682.88 positive in March 2008. The CD's are still the same. LTC Gaylen Maynes indicated we have enough funds to cover the ground preparations at the building site until July 1<sup>st</sup>. The Auxiliary reported that they had purchased the flowers for the Memorial to Merle Schurtz. A motion to accept the financial reports was made by PRES Annie Erekson, seconded by VP Erma Bullock. Vote passed.

The ladies departed for their Auxiliary meeting.

6. **The Valiant:** LTC Max Jamison reported that MAJ Johnnie Hayes has prepared streaming video of all our Heritage Day programs to use on our website. There is a need to contact Bob Cole and find out if the webserver can handle such a file size. LTC Jamison indicated the *Valiant* would start printing on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April.
7. **Building Project:** COL Norm Erikson reported that the utilities have nearly all been installed and that digging for the supports for the monuments has begun. \$300K has been donated by the people installing the utility lines so far. Topsoil from the Veteran's Administration building site, a mile away, will be donated as fill to our site for the gardens.
8. **Heritage Day:** MAJ Richard Bullock and LTC Robert Paul will Co-Chair the Heritage Day Committee. It is scheduled for 14 June at 10:00 a.m. in the Assembly Hall on Temple square. Assignments will be made this coming week.
9. **Essay Contest:** The contest is underway nationwide. MAJ Roger Grua reported in the Executive meeting that the deadline will be April 30.
10. **Trek 2008:** COL Erikson indicated that a new brochure has been published by Kevin Henson and passed around some samples. He invited everyone to visit the [battaliontrek.com](http://battaliontrek.com) website and see how much work Kevin has done in preparation.
11. **Company Reports:**
- Company B: CAPT LaVar Burton indicated that Harold Christensen had died and that they provided an honor guard at his services. He also noted that Merle Schurtz had passed away.
- They will be helping to dedicate a memorial plaque for the DUP on April 24. They will tell the history of CAPT Nelson Higgins at their next meeting
- Company C: MAJ Clark Olsen reported that their next meeting will discuss the life of PVT Lot Smith of the Battalion. They will be assisting at the grave memorialization in Scipio on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. MAJ Roger Grua had talked about the grave memorialization process.
- As National Scouting Advisor, MAJ Olsen has prepared a program for the neckerchief slide presentation for member review. He passed around a sample of his proposed presentation. He also indicated he will be having surgery on his neck soon to alleviate

numbness in his fingers and arms.

Company D: Nothing reported.

Company E: CAPT Earl Gillmore indicated they will be participating in preparation for a monument at the mouth of Emigration canyon. He will also be assisting in the filming of the history of the Tenth Ward battalion members.

Ship *Brooklyn*: MAJ Richard Bullock reported he had updated the website calendar to include Trek 2008 events. He also indicated he had made a final donation of historical materials for microfilming by the LDS Archives.

12. **Other:** LTC Max Jamison inquired if any progress has been made in forming a Utah Valley Company. No progress was reported.

COL Erikson read an email from MAJ Doug Williams about the license plate proposal. It seems it will cost some \$6,000 to get started, and they are up-front costs, with a minimum 250 plates to begin the program. We will review again after the *Valiant* is sent out and see what kind of response is received. We also would need a State Legislator to sponsor the program.

Elections are coming up this year and COL Erikson will be preparing suggestions for an election committee in the next meeting.

MAJ Clark Olsen will be presenting Eagle Scout slides on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. Some added discussion covered the appropriateness of having a Sunday presentation.

MAJ Richard Bullock mentioned a new book from the Arthur H. Clark Company called "At Swords Point - Part 1 - A Documentary History of the Utah War to 1858," had just been released. He noted there are many of the Battalion members mentioned in the book.

**Benediction:** MAJ Val John Halford

**Dismissed:** 11:40 a.m.