



The Ship Brooklyn

US MORMON BATTALION THE VALIANT

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Progress Is the Greatest Blessing

The Mormon Battalion Heritage Program at the Historic Salt Lake Tabernacle on June 12, 2004 was very successful. It has brought forth blessings and progress toward our goal of preserving the history of the faithful Battalion. We have received numerous communications from those who have heard the program. From far away New York to California the general response was two fold. First, many were surprised at the many accomplishments of the Mormon Battalion and Ship Brooklyn. Second, there was gratitude that we would expend the effort to render tribute to members of the Battalion and Ship Brooklyn. "They the Builders of the Nation," blessed,



Guy Dickson, CA LDS Living History



Elder & Sister Russell M Ballard, Mellissa (as Mellissa Coray) & Robert Ballard.

honored pioneers. We are very appreciative to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Deseret News, The San Diego Seagull, and the Salt Lake Tribune for their news articles regarding the Mormon Battalion program. The Church's Audiovisual Department and Production Division of Broadcast Services, in correlation with the U.S. Mormon Battalion, Inc., have developed a one-hour commemorative program of the Mormon Battalion and Ship Brooklyn pioneers. This film shall be aired by KBYU through their network of television affiliates. The film



LTC Robert Paul and Sam Parker

will be presented on various TV stations across America. Millions will learn of these great soldiers and pioneers. In view of the great effort from all who participated in this historical program, we express our unconditional love, gratitude, and appreciation. With attention focused on these great heroes of our Nation, we can press forward to build the new Mormon Battalion Visitor's Center at "This is the Place Pioneer Heritage Park." We are located at the entrance of the park, adjacent to the Pony Express Monument and Way Station. We have received some strong supporter contributions toward the building project but are still in need of the funds to begin work. This is a special interactive Museum that will teach generations to come. No money is paid for overhead expenses and all work by the Battalion is volunteered. A special interest bearing account is administered under the watchful eye of LTC Gaylen Maynes. Even if you have contributed in the past, please consider donating again. A new opportunity is to use a no interest charge on your credit card with a 90, 6 month or 12 month payment plan! We need one hundred percent effort from all as we are close to the projected final design phase for the project. To keep our bid low we need construction to begin in 2005. We especially need our members to be focused on completion. Please help by obtaining contributions from fund raisers, family organizations, friends, neighbors, and business associates.

We need to "Go all the way" until we have 100% financing in the bank! Every effort for the next six months needs to be expended toward raising a final sum of two \$2million dollars to meet our commitment to the Historic Park to raise up this Museum. For those wishing to honor a particular ancestor, we offer benches with contributor name and ancestor for \$5,000.00. In similar fashion for \$100,000.00 a room can be named after an ancestor. We also have Mormon Battalion memorabilia available for cash donations to the building. Your generosity can contribute to the success of this Museum. Your donations are tax exempt and can be used on you IRS return! Don't miss the chance to be a part of this Historic time and event. Best Regards, your friend,

Robert Pettegrew Paul Building & Funds Chairman

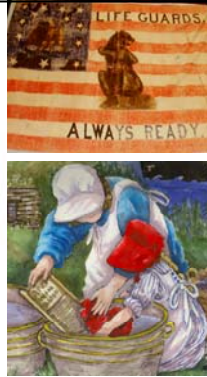
Welcome to the Valley Parade
Historic 10th Ward, Co. E





Anne Erikson

National
Womens
Auxiliary
President



Sam & Sandra Parker



Womens National Auxiliary President's Message

The Heritage Day Program in the Salt Lake Tabernacle on the evening of 12 June was a very spiritual experience for all who attended. We wish you all could have been in attendance. The beautiful music was performed by the Southern Utah Heritage Choir. As National Aux President, I gave a tribute to the women who remained behind on the prairies of Iowa. Guy Dickson gave an excellent talk about the four cultural cornerstones the Mormon Battalion accomplished, which were road builders, bridging cultures, peace keepers and being the salvation of the church. Melissa Garff Ballard gave a tribute to her 3rd great grandmother, Melissa Burton Coray and the events that happened to this young woman as she marched by the side of her husband, William, from Council Bluffs, Iowa To San Diego, California, burying her new born son in Monterey and then marched on to the Valley of the Great Salt Lake, where her husband died several months later. Of course, the frosting on the cake was Elder M. Russell Ballard's spiritual talk which honored the Mormon Battalion. He reminded us of the sacred covenants we have made to lay everything on the altar, when asked to do so. We need ANY articles and pictures for our National Scrapbook and the Valiant, if you see ANYTHING in your local paper related to Mormon pioneers, Battalion, Local history. Please email them to the Valiant at mtnews@hotmail.com Mark them USMB under Subject. You can either copy the web address and send that or copy and send Article, Author, and Source. If you don't use the computer yet, you can mail it to the Mormon Battalion address listed on this Newspaper or give it to your local Company Commander to deliver at the monthly National Meeting at the Historic 10th Ward. There are still quite a few women we want to memorialize. If you:

- (1) Have an pioneer ancestor or,
 - (2) Know the location of any graves of the women who marched with the Mormon Battalion or,
 - (3) Gravesites of those who remained behind whose sons or husbands went with the Battalion.
- We would be very happy to help the families accomplish a wonderful Memorialization which is an exciting event. We are here to serve you! Thanks for all of your support. *Anne Erikson Womens National Aux President*

As many of our Mormon Battalion Auxiliary members live away from organized companies I would like to give you a brief resume' of the activities that have been completed and the goals we would like to accomplish in the coming year. Since January of 2004, we have had 6 new Life members join our auxiliary and 27 new annual members plus all the yearly renewals. The auxiliary appreciates your support as we help the Battalion with their goals; the major goal at this time is building a interactive historic Museum and Library to teach about the Battalion and collecting the many artifacts, and histories which we can make available to the public. The auxiliary has a great staff and I would like to introduce them:

- Anne Erikson.....Womens National Aux President.....Home Company C
- Norma Bench,Womens National Aux Vice President.....Home Company Ship Brooklyn
- Callie McMurdie,Womens National Aux Secretary.....Home Company A
- Erma Bullock,Womens National Aux Treasurer.....Home Company Ship Brooklyn
- Roselyn Slade,Womens National Aux Historian.....Home Company C
- Margaret Larson,Womens National Aux Memorialization.....Member At Large
- Nadine Sprouse,Womens National Aux Membership.....Home Company A
- Martha Rasmussen,Womens National Aux Life Membership.....Home Company D
- Shirley Maynes,Womens National Aux Chief Advisor.....Home Company B

The auxiliary released three women from the board: Thelma Miller, National Aux Treasurer, Janice Barnes, National Aux Secretary, winter, and Margaret Phillips, National Aux Secretary, summer. Thanks to them for a great job! We also presented two Honorary Life memberships to: Sandra Parker and Karen Gillmore both of HQ Company E.

LTC Dan'l Adams, N Cal Div Cmdr: On Saturday 14 Aug 04, the US Mormon Battalion Flag was honored as the California Historic Flag during the opening of the Greater Yosemite Council's Jamboree. A history of the Battalion was read to the combined group as the "colors" were raised.

National Commander's Report

Fellow Members of the US Mormon Battalion: it is good to be affiliated with a growing, dynamic group of people, dedicated to the historical preservation of memories, journals, facts, and artifacts of pioneers who preceded us in laying and building foundations for good in this great land, and in keeping their lives in honorable remembrance before the world. The past two months have been ripe with good activities. On June 12th, Mormon Battalion Day, Uniform Standards were enacted, Membership Fees voted on, and men and women installed furthering the purposes of the great men and women of the Mormon Battalion and the Ship Brooklyn. In the evening we presented the Mormon Battalion Heritage Day Program; "They the Builders of the Nation", at the Tabernacle on Temple Square, Elder M. Russell Ballard, of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles spoke. A special message was proclaimed by song and word to over four thousand people. LDS President Gordon B. Hinckley approved a video of these proceedings to be made and distributed to TV stations and visitor centers around the country. We salute and thank him for this great opportunity. An extra special thank you to the Southern Utah Heritage Choir of St. George and director, Floyd Rigby. Several color guard activities have occurred in many communities around Utah, California, Nevada, Washington, Iowa, and Nebraska. Company E on July 1st presented the annual "Welcome to the Valley Parade, at the Historic 10th Ward in SLC, UT. The ward once known as The Mormon Battalion Ward and current HQ of the US Mormon Battalion. Sunrise Service at the Tabernacle on Pioneer Day July 24th as Part of The Days of '47 Parade. Company A won the 1st Place & 2nd Place awards in the Sandy City 24th Parade for the color guard and a restored WW II Jeep. Company C was represented in the Ogden 24th Parade in a float by the Syracuse Stake. Parade activities in California reported on the UP. Winter Quarters and Kaneshville area are erecting a Mormon Battalion Memorial Monument at the same area that the original Battalion was gathered on July 16, 1846. Their target date is 16 July 2005. California is also getting a company formed to do this and participate with the Mormon Battalion. The Battalion Memorial Monument for the "This is The Place Park" is on track. A Replica of the Mormon Battalion Memorial Monument for San Diego, Old Town Park, is also coming. The San Diego members are committed to being actively involved in the National USMB organization. WELCOME AND THANK YOU!! Our biggest challenge is to get construction underway on our Project at This is the Place Heritage Park. We desire to get construction started this spring. Our building fund and many commitments of labor and materials are already in place, still we need to raise \$2Million so that construction can start. Please make a personal commitment to make and enlist generous contributions towards this interactive Museum and Library. 27 New Life Members and 26 New Annual Members Enlisted since the first of the year. Many of these have made a building fund contribution along with their membership dues. WELCOME AND THANK YOU! As you will see in other parts of The Valiant, other activities have and are occurring. Let us keep the momentum up as we proceed to fulfill the Prophets and President Young's prophecy that, "These men and women shall be held in honorable remembrance forever and ever." THANKS TO ALL WHO HELP!

Norman T. Erekson,
Commander US Mormon Battalion, Inc



Southern Utah Heritage Choir with Floyd Rigby, Director



Elder Ballard & Commander Erekson



Color Guard and Mormon Battalion Representatives: Maj. Gloyd Sprouse, Cpt. Jay Bowen, Major Robert Cole, Major



Elder Ballard, LTC Paul, and Cmdr Erekson at Flag Ceremony



Enoch Hunsaker, Ashley Naegle, Christopher Kennedy, Seminary MB Essay Contest Winners

MEETING PLACES AND TIMES OF THE MORMON BATTALION COMPANIES OCT 2004

T H U	CO B	7 PM 3rd
	CO C	7 PM Last
	CO D	7 PM 4th
F R I	CO A	6:30PM 3rd
	N CA CO	7 PM 3rd
	CO E	As Announced
S A T	Exec. Board	9-11AM 3rd
	Nat Staff	11-12AM 3rd
	Women Aux	9-12AM 3rd

National Headquarters: Tenth Ward Chapel - 8th East 400 So. SLC, UT
801-256-0329 www.mormonbattalion.com
Third Saturday of each month. Exec. Board 9:00 AM. National Staff 11:00 AM
National Commander: Col Norman T. Ereksen National Auxiliary President: Anne Ereksen
801-731-3538 zye@juno.com

National Staff meetings are 3rd Saturday of January, March, April, June, August, and October at 11:00 AM
ELECTION RESULTS: Nominated Colonel Norman T. Ereksen as Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Robert Pettegrew Paul, Executive Officer, Capt Richard H. Bullock Adjutant, Major Thomas Coyne Finance Officer, Major Gloyd Sprouse Membership Officer, and Major Robert D. Welti Public Relations Officer. Adjutant, Major Glade I.

Nelson mailed ballots to all members who were current in their dues. All valid ballots were counted and the above slates of Officers were elected for the 2 years starting in October 2004. Colonel Norman T. Ereksen, as Commander Lieutenant Colonel Robert Pettegrew Paul, Executive Officer Capt Richard H. Bullock, Adjutant Major Thomas Coyne, Finance Officer Major Gloyd Sprouse, Membership Officer Major Robert D. Welti, Public Relations Officer.

Company A: Granite Tabernacle - 20th South 9 East SLC, UT Commander: Capt Jay Bowen 801-969-4221 sheldonteeple@aol.com
Auxiliary President: Callie McMurdie 801-486-6018 Meets 3rd Fri of each month at 6:30 PM

Company B: West Jordon Senior Citizen Center 8025 So. 2200 West Commander: Capt Garth Nuttall 801-562-5823
wgn@bigplanet.com Auxiliary President: Kathleen Sutherland 801-253-4943 Meets 3rd Thurs of each month at 7 PM

Company C: Roy Library 1950 West 4800 So. Roy, UT Commander: Capt Dale Read 801-392-1254
cread00se7en@comcast.netmailto:zye@juno.com Auxiliary President: Roselyn Slade 801-544-3835
rwwslade@juno.com Meets the last Thursday of each month 7 PM

Company D: Senior Citizen Center 240 North 100 East Logan, UT Commander: Capt Rodney Rasmussen 435-245-4814
Auxiliary President: Arlene Miller 435-753-2586 Meets 4th Thursday of each month 7 PM

HQ Company E: Tenth Ward Chapel, SLC Contact Capt Earl Gilmore cell 801-541-1061

Dixie Company: Commander: Capt Phil Baker 435-628-3883 philynette@peoplepc.net Auxiliary President: Lynette Baker
435-628-3883 Meets every three or four months. Contact Capt Baker 435-628-3883

Kane Company: Commander: Capt Dennis Pace 435-644-3012 Auxiliary Pres: Genevieve Despain
435-644-3108 Contact Capt Dennis Pace

Mesa Company: Commander Capt Royce Hatch 480-396-2616 royce@hatchs.net

Northern California Company: Ceres, California Ward Chapel Commander: Capt L. Denton Hoeh 209-847-7119 Ldhoeh@yahoo.com
Aux Pres: Cynthia Honor 209-848-8375 chonor@msn.com Meets 3rd Fri of each month 7 PM

Ship Brooklyn Company: Commander: Major Richard Bullock 801-943-9393 silver2a@earthlink.net

US Mormon Battalion

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