

MORMON BATTALION ASSOCIATION



“...will be held in honorable remembrance...”

General Membership Meeting

WHEN

Thu, Sept 14th
7:00 PM MDT

PRESENTER

Kristine Forbes

WHAT

“Mormon Battalion
Discharged in
California, Part II -
Men on the Move”

LINK

[https://
us02web.zoom.us
/j/88362844087?
pwd=UDEreIBNRT
hUVUhtcGY5SFM
1L1pHUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88362844087?pwd=UDEreIBNRT hUVUhtcGY5SFM 1L1pHUT09)

FROM THE PRESIDENT Greg Christofferson



In the summer of 1957, as an 11 year-old, I attended with my family a performance of "Sand In Their Shoes." It was a musical about the Mormon Battalion, written by famed LDS composer Crawford Gates. It was performed on the old football field at BYU, and the audience sat on the east bleachers.

A couple of things about the show that I still recall are that a rider rode onto the field, galloping his horse. It must have been to advise the folks that Captain Allen was coming to recruit for the Battalion. I also remember the seemingly endless refrain, *"They had sand in their shoes from marching the lonely miles..."* There is a performance from 1959 in the Crawford Gates collection at the Harold B. Lee Library at BYU. Maybe we can get permission to put it on our website.

The other thing I recall about that long-ago evening was that the bleachers were full. The interest in the Battalion story seems to resonate with every generation. This was brought to my mind again on July 24 this summer. A group of families started at Donner Park at 7:00 AM for a five-mile walk to First Encampment Park in Salt Lake City, retracing the path of the first pioneers to enter the Valley 176 years ago,

There was a rest stop at the halfway mark on the lawn of a chapel where the participants took a break to rest their feet and consume popsicles. Laura and Craig Anderson met me there, and I gave a 15 minute presentation about the Battalion. What I found interesting was that the 24th marks the entrance of the Vanguard Company, but people were still interested to learn about the Battalion including the detachments who arrived five days later and those who were discharged in California and making their way eastward.

I encourage you to spread the word about the Mormon Battalion Association among your family and friends. We have recently seen an uptick in memberships--lets keep it going!

Thanks for all you do to preserve the Battalion story.

MORMON BATTALION ASSOCIATION

Board

John A. Bascom
Michael Bilbo
Peter D. Guilbert
L. Denny Hoeh
Mark Hunter
Randall D. Madsen
Terry Rosvall
Gary L. Smith

Executive and Support Staff

Greg Christofferson	President
Brad Allen	Vice President
Laura Anderson	Exec Director
Thomas Griggs	Exec Director
Linda Griggs	Secretary
Ronald P. Kirkpatrick	Treasurer
Richard Harden	Membership
David Day	Legal Advisor



Check out
Mormon Battalion Association
videos

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaCSOJvkFSJWgmUxcNFBj4A>



NOVEMBER 4TH

CELEBRATE
CALIFORNIA
PIONEER
HISTORY
DAY

FREE FAMILY EVENT*
10AM-4PM

Historical Presentations, Pioneer Crafts,
Games, Kids Activities, and more!

Food available for purchase
(or bring your own)

*State Parking Fee \$10 per vehicle

MARSHALL GOLD DISCOVERY
STATE PARK
COLOMA, CALIFORNIA





Efforts towards getting the Mormon Battalion Trail recognized

Laura Anderson

1. **Submit a bill extending the period of significance for the Mormon Trail from 1846 (across Iowa) and 1847 (from Winter Quarters to SLC) to 1846-1869 which would cover all of our men and family's movements.**

A bill has been drafted by the Oregon California Trails Association. They are seeking a sponsor. How can I help? When OCTA finds a sponsor we can locate congressional co-sponsors from our states.



2. **Re-establish the regional Mormon Trails organizations to represent the Mormon Trail in Utah and Wyoming**

Status report of the new Mormon Trails across Wyoming and Utah: Laura Anderson has filed the Articles of Incorporation and David Day, legal counsel, is working on the Bylaws for the organization. We have a proposed President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Executive Director, Newsletter Editor and 13 Board Members. As soon as we have by-laws and people appointed to their positions, we will establish bank accounts etc. The meeting to establish by-laws and appoint officers will was held on Wednesday the 23 of August at 7:00 pm.

3. **Establish the National "Mormon Trails Association"**

This would have representatives from the "Iowa Mormon Trails Association", the "Mormon Trails across Nebraska", the "Mormon Trails across Wyoming and Utah" and the Mormon Battalion Association. There may be more as time goes on.

4. **Establish a partner agreement with the "Long distance trails office of the National Park Service"**

These agreements have been established with the Iowa and Nebraska Association. After these are established, we will be in a position to get the National Mormon Trails Association organization recognized by the National Parks service as well.

5. **Once we have shown that the Mormon Trails are important to the citizens of the U.S., we will be in a better position to present a bill in Congress to extend the Mormon Trail to include the Mormon Battalion Trail.**

An alternative would be to make it a part of a southern corridor trail of the western migration either of these would get us where we want to be with a trail that is protected with funds to mark it.

6. **Attend "Hike the Hill" to meet with legislators and represent the Mormon trail.**





GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Thursday, September 14th
7:00 PM MDT
Kristine Forbes

Link:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88362844087?
pwd=UDEreIBNRThUVUhtcGY5SFM1L1pHUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88362844087?pwd=UDEreIBNRThUVUhtcGY5SFM1L1pHUT09)

Mormon Battalion Discharged in California, Part II -- Men on the Move

The post-discharge path of the 317 soldiers discharged in Los Angeles July 1847 was not straightforward. Considering conflicting directives from leaders, resource constraints and incomplete and changing news about the Camp of Israel, it would take an extra year for those who were hoping to meet their families to do so. With a closed set of individuals to evaluate and a limited number of possible companies in which they might have traveled, we have a unique opportunity to solve what has previously seemed an impossible puzzle--creating rosters for who traveled in which 1847 and 1848 company, and a list of those who remained in California at least until 1849. As we did with the 1847 companies in Part I, in addition to the revised and filled out rosters, we have clarified the 1848 company descriptions: number in each, dates various groups departed, regrouped, then arrived in Salt Lake City.

Then we will paint a picture of where in California various sets of men were at the beginning of 1848 and show the fluidity of their movement within the state even before gold was discovered. We will go through the slow rollout of the gold discovery news throughout the state, and how that impacted the formation of the various 1848 companies. We will provide an overview of each of the 7 companies that traveled from California to Salt Lake that year, with new insights and visuals that will bring that experience to life. Overall, this presentation will show how critical the Mormon Battalion's knowledge of California and the 2 trails to SLC were in supporting the ultimate success of what was then considered The State of Deseret.





Mormon Battalion Association Resources

Website

<https://www.mormonbattalion.com/>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?>

Youtube

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaCSOJvkFSJWgmUxcNF Bj4A>

Email

mobattoffice@gmail.com

Newsletter

dantzelle@gmail.com



Descendants of Toquerville pioneer pay homage to Levi Savage with sculpture

By Haven Scott on Jul 30, 2023 09:01 am



Levi Savage

GENDER: Male
BIRTH DATE: 23 Mar 1820
BIRTH PLACE: Greenfield, Huron, Ohio, USA
MARRIAGE DATE: 23 Jan 1848
DEATH DATE: 13 Dec 1910
DEATH PLACE: Toquerville, Washington, Utah
SPOUSE'S NAME: Jane Mathers
FATHER'S NAME: Levi Savage Sr.
MOTHER'S NAME: Polly Haynes
RANK: Private
COMPANY: D

Read more:

<https://www.stgeorgeutah.com/news/archive/2023/07/30/hws-descendants-of-toquerville-pioneer-pay-homage-to-levi-savage-with-sculpture/>



TRUE OR FALSE?



1. All members of the Mormon Battalion were members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.
2. Four companies of 100 men each were mustered on July 16, 1846.
3. A total of 20 women were official laundresses but 15 additional women left Fort Leavenworth with the Battalion.
4. The laundresses were paid by the US Army.
5. 496 men were on the July 16 muster roll and the first muster payroll on August 31, but some names were different.
6. All detachments were comprised of sick men.
7. On a trip to Santa Fe, Captain Brown was given orders to take the men in the detachments to join the Battalion in California, causing great contention.
8. A large number of men in the detachments who arrived in Salt Lake in July, left for Winter Quarters in August 1847.
9. Two men officially resigned from the Mormon Battalion during the one-year enlistment.
10. After discharge, most men who stayed in California worked at Sutter's Fort.

Answers on page 8





Please consider contributing to our endowment fund. We have \$100,000 matching funds. All is needed is one hundred \$1,000 gifts or two hundred \$5 gifts. This funding is designed to produce enough annual interest to support our normal operating expenses each year.

Send your check to
Mormon Battalion Association
C/O Ron Kirkpatrick
8610 President Place NW
 PayPal:
 battalioncommander@mormonbattalion.com.



Thanks to research by Mary Ann Kirk, one can read daily articles about members of the Mormon Battalion on the Mormon Battalion Association Facebook page.



Page Overview

Followers: 3,296
 Last 28 days

Post reach
548,131

Post Engagement
25,609

New Page likes
58

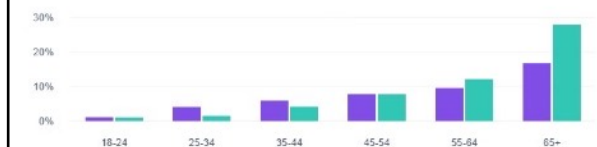
See more insights



Spreading the stories through Facebook - Believe it or not, our Facebook page is spreading throughout the world. Last month, the posts reached over a half a million people with around 25,000 individuals engaged with the posts. The site has about 3300 followers, most from the US but about 400 from nine other countries. Followers are 45.8 % male and 54.2% female, most 55+. We often add about 10-15 new page followers a week. The goal is to post a brief life sketch for all 496 men over the next 12-18 months, moving through the roster in alphabetical order although we already posted the life sketches for those who died in May and highlighted the women with the Battalion in March. We are currently in the Cs so follow along through the lives of the men in the Mormon Battalion.

Age and Gender

Men 45.30%
 Women 54.70%



TRUE OR FALSE? ANSWERS

1. **False.** Although we don't know the exact number, a small number of men were not members. Some were associated with other members of the Saints or the Battalion. A few had no connection to the Saints including the two young men who saw the Battalion camped at Fort Leavenworth and joined Company E - William Beddome and Robert Whitworth. A few men were baptized during enlistment.
2. **False.** According to the military request, they only needed 73 men to form an official company. Four companies were mustered on July 16 with approximately 350 men. Company E was organized after July 16 and men were added to the first four companies as Brigham Young continued to recruit to get to his goal of 500.
3. **True.** By military orders, each company was allowed four laundresses. The twenty women who left with the Battalion at Council Bluffs were designated as the official laundresses although we have not found primary documents for all 20. The other 15 women who traveled with the Battalion met them at Fort Leavenworth, most with large families. They were not official laundresses, although a few were appointed as laundresses at Sante Fe as they left for Pueblo.
4. **False.** The official laundresses received rations and were provided transportation by the US Army, but they were paid by the soldiers.
5. **True.** Some names on the initial rolls were crossed off and replaced with new names. A few were not crossed off but were not carried on subsequent rolls, likely never arriving at Fort Leavenworth. A few were added at Fort Leavenworth and two were added on the August 31 muster pay roll. But the number of 496 remained the same.
6. **False.** The first detachment was comprised of most of the families that joined at Fort Leavenworth. The men were sent to escort their families and were instructed to meet the Battalion at Santa Fe (those orders were later changed). The second detachment had some sick men identified by Doctor Sanderson, but it was also comprised of inefficient men and the spouses of 20 women/children. The third detachment had many sick and feeble men, but also escorts who were healthy.
7. **True.** On a trip to Santa Fe from Pueblo, Captain Brown received orders to take the detached soldiers in May and join the Battalion in California, upsetting many men. Brigham Young sent four men to intercept the group, calm the contention, and bring them to Salt Lake behind his Vanguard Company.
8. **True.** In late July 1847, the men with the detachments along with men from the Mississippi Saints and Vanguard Company began preparing the valley for a large company of Saints on their way. Just a few weeks later, about 75% of the men with the detachments (just under 100 of the 138) left for Iowa in August with various groups, most of them with two organized companies. About 15 veterans met their families among the incoming companies and returned to Salt Lake.
9. **True.** Samuel Gully resigned at Sante Fe and returned to Iowa. Officer Sylvester Hulett resigned in April and traveled with Kearny's escorts as a civilian until he broke off to join a company of Saints on their way to the Salt Lake Valley. Pay documents verify his pay to April.
10. **False.** About 110 of the 200+ men who went north remained in California to work during the winter of 1847-48. About 53 men, just less than half, worked at Sutters at various jobs. About 58 worked in surrounding communities such as San Francisco and Monterrey although most eventually did some mining along the American River as they gathered to travel to Utah in 1848-49.