



The Tyrant's Foe

Newsletter of the Texas Rifles

Volume 56

Celebrating 37 Years of Excellence

March 2024



Captain's Post

We have conducted the muster, set the schedule, and once again are into the campaign season. Perhaps for the first time in the history of this organization, we have two vacant offices that need to be filled. Our Lt. did not run for re-election and we also need a civilian coordinator. Paid members may volunteer for these positions, which in accordance with the bylaws will be selected by the other board members. More detail about the muster later in the newsletter, but one obvious hint is that I am still the author of this section.

I did return for another year as Captain, but I expect this office to be passed on to a younger and more energetic successor. We have put forth a tremendous

effort over the years to re-learn how things were done in the past and this knowledge needs to be preserved and handed on to future generations. More about the muster can be read in that article elsewhere in the newsletter. One of the impacts of our membership situation, is that low event attendance means we do not have a quorum present, which means we can not then vote in new members that have attended the required number of max effort events. We obviously need the new members as the future if the organization depends on them.

We have also held our event at Ft. McKavett and we will soon be at Pleasant Hill. I have also been in contact with the national Park Service regarding May 19th at Vicksburg, so that event is also one to look forward to as we hope to build more into it than we had last year. And we will have one change at the Memorial Day ceremony – we will only fire the opening volley, which means after the colors are presented, we are done, and can avoid the crowd at the end of the ceremony.

Please check if you are on the newsletter mailing list by checking here <https://www.texasrifles.org/lists/> this page will let you update your email address as well as manage your subscription to the list.

Keeping History Alive

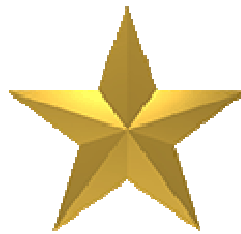


Lieutenant's Inkwell



Lieutenant's Inkwell

Pending assignment



Because the
Sergeant
Says So



1SG's Rants

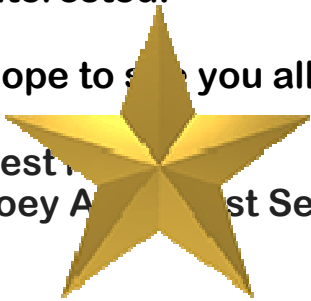
Happy 2024 everyone. We have started the year strong with our first in person muster in several years and a weekend at Fort McKavett on March. It was good to see some familiar faces again at Muster and I've heard good things about McKavett. This will be a short submission but a friendly reminder, now bordering on urgent is Pleasant Hill is fast approaching in April (April 12-14). We will be Federal and work along side our pards on the 9th Texas and 1st Texas. Please sound off to Tommy if you plan on attending so he can get registration taken care of and we can plan rations.

A month later we will be at Vicksburg for the staff ride with the current 13th Infantry. This will be May 19th. Again, sound off if you plan on attending so we can start coordinating rides and such. This is a relatively new thing for our group but the response has been positive and you get time to explore the battlefield as well before and after.

Please send your dues in asap. We still are lacking a LT if anyone is so interested.

Hope to see you all on the field soon.

Best
Joey A. [redacted] st Sergeant



Recruiting Duty

If anyone has a referral interested in the Texas Rifles, contact:
Jim Richardson @ 832-673-8393, Houston



Annual Muster January 20, 2024 at Pioneer Farms, Austin

We returned to Pioneer Farms in Austin for our 2024 annual muster. As was the case with musters past, the building and the day were cold, and the heating system in the building only made a minimal impact. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM and we proceeded with the old business – payment of dues for 2024. A new member in attendance was introduced.

Next was the new business of the muster, first item being the election of officers. Tommy Attaway was nominated and retained as Captain for another year. Our Lieutenant decided not to be available for re-election, and there were no nominations for the office from members present. Thus, the office is now vacant, pending being filled in accordance with the bylaws. Joey Alamia was nominated and retained as First Sergeant. Likewise, we had no member present to be elected to the office of Civilian Coordinator, and this office will need to be filled. The Board then re-appointed Rion Braddock to the office of Treasurer.

Committee reports were directed to be included in this edition of the newsletter.

Captain: We are now at our second in person post Covid muster. As with many organizations in a precarious position prior to lockdown, that event was or is near fatal to the survival of the organization. As members have retired from participating, and there being limited means of building membership, we have had questions as if we are still viable as an organization.

Our recruiter has been out going his duty. We currently have three recruits eligible for membership at the next meeting, one who attended Muster and will

be eligible for membership at his next max effort event, and a few more prospects.

I think we are in a period of consolidation in the hobby. The number of small groups exploded in the 1980s, and I suggest we are going to see mergers and the small groups disappear in favor of larger and more viable groups that have a pool of living history experience and talent.

Based on information from the Treasurer, we have 13 paid members as of the end of February, requiring 4 to be present and 2 of the current 3 board members in order to hold a meeting.

Treasurer:

After payment of dues and the auction, there is a balance of \$2137.28.

Authenticity:

As always, the list of suppliers needs to be updated and put on the website, to correlate with our impressions.

Next order of business was to set the schedule for 2024, with the following results:

March 9-10 Ft. McKavett as US impression max effort

March 22 – 24 Goliad as Tex Rev individual event

April 13 – 14 Pleasant Hill LA as US max effort

May 19th Vicksburg 13th Infantry First at Vicksburg as 13th Infantry max effort

May 27th Memorial Day at Houston National Cemetery as US Company effort

October 12th History Day in New Braunfels doing various impressions

November 11th Veteran's Day at Houston City Hall as US max effort

December 8 – 9 Prairie Grove, AR as US individual

January 4th Battle of Galveston Commemoration as US individual effort

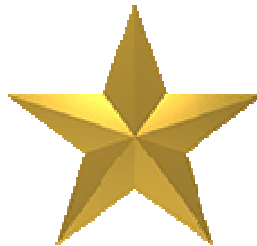
January 18th 2025 Annual Muster as CS max effort

Other new business was considered –

Rental of storage space for the QM gear

Because of the conditions under which we held muster, we are still looking for an environment in which we can have annual muster in a manner that supports a weekend of camaraderie and a business meeting in a comfortable environment. John Tyler suggested the historical park at New Braunfels could meet our needs and should be a topic of conversation with the staff. Tommy Attaway suggested that the conversation would probably be easier to have on both sides, after participation in an event at the park, so the staff would have a better understanding of what we can do for programs and a potential partnership with the site.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM.



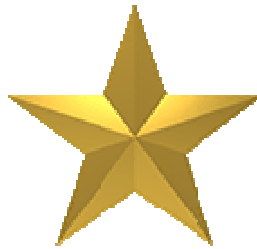
Pleasant Hill

Both the 1st and 9th TX will be at Pleasant Hill and we will combine efforts with our friends, probably with one of the three company commanders being the Federal commander and operating with two companies. As always, it depends on the number of people who attend. I have submitted the group registration, and we can each pay the \$10 fee on arrival.

They have proposed moving the Federal camp, but in talking with the other two company commanders, we will probably choose to remain where we have been (almost straight back from the dogtrot cabin off the path as it turns to the left over to the right). I hope we have more of us attending, and let me know at tommy_attaway@yahoo.com. The address for you GPS locator for the registration is the cabin at 23271 LA state highway 175.

Register at the dogtrot cabin when you arrive and then proceed to camp. Friday is arrival and set up. Saturday morning will sort out how the Federal forces will be organized and then do some much needed company drill as we several new members that are going to be firing in their first event, and we are on the actual battlefield which is privately owned. This event should be a good introduction to re-enacting for their first battle. We will be served supper on Saturday evening near the dogtrot. Therefore, minimal cooking will be required.

Battles will be Saturday and Sunday at 2PM both days. We depart immediately after the battle on Sunday. This event is referred to as mainstream - camping (particularly by Confederates) will have a number of period incorrect features - and in this case, I'm OK with A frame tents instead of shelter halves and having items out of sight that make your camp more comfortable. Just don't let me see it keep it hidden in the tent. I'll bring the frontier ammo box and our 1st Sgt, should be bringing an ammo box as well.



Ft. McKavett

We returned to Ft. McKavett March 9th and 10th for our max effort event. Once again, we went through part of the muster for pay scenario, and as we had new members attending, some time was spent on school of the soldier in order to prepare our new members for Pleasant Hill.

The fort has invited us to help out at another of their events the last weekend in September.



Interaction with park visitors.



Preparing the payroll





Let's shoot for a June 15th deadline for the next newsletters' articles so we can get one published for June 30th and keep on schedule for 2024.

Please email me at joseph.a.alamia@gmail.com with any and all articles. I'd love to start a book review/recommendation section if someone would like to contribute (preferably Civil War or Texas Revolution related).

Joey

