



# The Tyrant's Foe

Newsletter of the Texas Rifles

Volume 57

Celebrating 38 Years of Excellence

March 2025



## Captain's Post

**Muster has come and gone, but I'm still here. I expect this to be my last year to serve as the Captain of the Texas Rifles, and it has been quite an experience off and on since I first stepped into this role in 2013. This year will make my tenure of eight of the twelve years the longest tenure as Captain in our 38 years, the last four being consecutive, which surpasses our first Captain, Scott Swenson.**

In the over 20 years I have been a member, I have seen our numbers in the field shrink from a representative late war company, to a small company, to now where we struggle to put a mess into the field at an event. It is imperative that we use the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our nation, to attract new members and instill a

love for history. This must be our priority for the year. Targeting Texas schools for visits and programs is how I see us surviving into the future. We have the advantage of having an amount of loaner gear and muskets that we can use to get three or four new people into the field, while they work on their kits. That should make what is an expensive hobby more bearable for our recruits.

We must also be mindful that this is a totally new experience for our recruits, and we must not cut corners, but use our experience to more accurately recreate the past by transmitting the knowledge we have gained to future generations. This means being accurate in how we camp, the rations we prepare, and our standards of dress and equipage.

We selected to have fewer events in the hope of having better attendance. Should we be successful in recruiting, we can look forward to better events and an enjoyable future,

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**



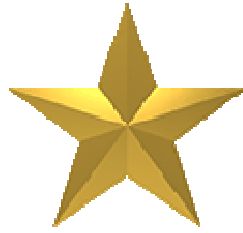


## **Lieutenant's Inkwell**

**Hope everyone has thawed out after a chilly winter. Our spring campaigning season has begun. So far this year, we've had muster at our new site in New Braunfels at Heritage Village. It is a very nice site and presents us with some opportunities for different types of events and living histories. Other than that we've had members attend events in Alexandria, LA with some pards out that way. It was a cold event but it was fun to do a static winter quarters event. Members have recently attended Fort Blakeley's reenactment outside Mobile where they spent 36 hours on picket duty, digging trenches and earthworks and assaulting a beautiful Confederate position on the 160th anniversary of that battle in April 1865. Other members attended the Museum of the American GI's living history weekend and spent time talking with school kids and adults about the civil war. Soon we will have several members make the trip to Pleasant Hill, LA for an event with our friends in the RRB. So far it's been a busy and active spring.**

**I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in the field. Remember, recruit, recruit, recruit. We need new members. The organization is not going to last if we can't bring in new recruits.**

**Joey Alamia  
LT**



Because the  
Sergeant  
Says So



## **1SG's Rants**

**Arthur Porras 1st Sergeant**



**Recruiting Duty**

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



## **2025 Annual Muster – Heritage Village New Braunfels**

**The site location was the Museum of Texas Handmade Furniture, and did us an excellent venue for the Muster location. I suggest that it serve as the location for our 2026 Muster. The site has those characteristics we have always wanted as a historical setting in which we can conduct our business meeting, and spend some relaxing time with the friends we have made re living the past.**

**The Muster began at 9AM with our usual old business activity of dues payment for the year 2025. As per our bylaws, this ensures that we have a quorum of members present at the Muster, and can thus attend to the business of the organization.**

**The officer reports presented the picture of our organization as it struggles to keep up the the spark of living history in a culture that has lost its sense of time and place. This we hope will change in the coming year as the focus turns to the celebration of our founding and a desire to connect with the past.**

**Captain's Report: We struggle to attract new members and put even a small company leadership into the field. Many of the events are now repetitive and not attractive to the older members as a result of the political climate leading to the cancellation of events depicting 1861 to 1865, resulting in small events lacking in scale. The challenge is to make events worth attending, and interesting to the members. Suggesting targeting schools for living history talks that will hopefully translate in to interest, and potential members we can**

**develop into new members that we initially equip and train. If we can hold on another year, we may be able to turn the tide.**

**Treasurer: Our balance is \$1768.28 as dues for 2025 have been received, and loaner gear purchased or maintained.**

**QM: We have over 25 pounds of powder on hand and over 1000 caps, meaning we have sufficient ammunition for the year. We can also equip at least 3 guests with items on hand. Most importantly, guests will have to return items at the event. While intentions of attending the next event are fantastic, if something intervenes, that gear may be desperately needed by another new member, or even the owner if we do not have the needed number of people attending.**

**Authenticity: The loss of vendors continues, tin ware and quality 1<sup>st</sup> person items being the hardest hit. Our loaner gear (especially donations) are not always of our desired type and quality, but we can put additional troops into the field.**

**The meeting then moved on to new business.**

**First item was election of officers for 2025, with the following results:**

**Captain: Tommy Attaway**

**Lieutenant: Joey Alamia**

**First Sergeant: Arthur Porras**

**Civilian Coordinator: Vacant**

**Treasurer: Rion Braddock appointed by the Captain and consent of the board**

**Next business was setting the schedule for 2025 and the Muster for 2026.**

**The event schedule is published on the website at :**

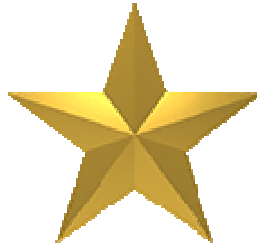
**<https://www.texasrifles.org/events.html>**

**The Captain stated that we did not have enough members present at events in 2024 to have a quorum for meetings at events. Four members provided signed proxies, which should get us to the threshold to hold a meeting at an event so that we can conduct business such as voting on new members.**

**Discussion was held on the future and plans for new member recruitment.**

**After lunch, a drill session was held to increase the proficiency of officers in new roles, the principles of the guides, and study of Casey's, to better be acquainted with the differences in drill when Federal or revised Hardee's as Confederate.**

**The Muster was adjourned at approximately 2:30.**



### **Pleasant Hill LA April 12 / 13**

**The Pleasant Hill event is coming up next weekend, April 11 through April 13. Here are directions to get to our camp site. The street address for the site is 23271 Highway LA 175, Pelican, LA.**

**We will be serving as Federal, combining with our friends of the 1<sup>st</sup> Texas, 9<sup>th</sup> Texas, RRB, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Arkansas. Enfield will be the musket preference as we will be adding to the 165<sup>th</sup> NY impression, and that is what they had. 1861 Springfield, is the next preference in our role as the 13<sup>th</sup> US Infantry.**

**Upon arrival at the event site, go to the Dog Trot to sign in and pay your \$10 event fee then proceed to the new camp site (see revised attached map). Get back on the highway, turning to the left and go down about 100 yards to the steel gate on the left, turn in there and drive straight across the east end of the battlefield, behind the flagpole in the middle of the field, to get to the camp. The camp will be on the left adjacent to the tree line where the tree line curves a bit. There is a slight depression of a drainage slough to avoid driving through. The steel gate is set back off the road and at the top of the gate frame is a triangular top with a "P" inside a circle.**





**This places us away from the overcrowded Confederate camp and the too small parking area that we had to deal with last year. It should also help to get us on the road back home somewhat faster on Sunday afternoon. A Frames, shelter halves, and fly are acceptable camp habitations. Other accommodations after consulting with the captain. Breakfast and dinner on Saturday are provided by the event, along with breakfast on Sunday. Thus, cooking will be minimal.**

**There will be sutlers, but they are unlikely to have clothing to our standards of authenticity. You may find some small items of utility.**

**I have been informed to recommend that each man bring 3 to 4 gallons of water for the weekend for drinking, cooking and cleaning purposes. We will be remote from the provided water sources located at the mainstream camp area.**



**BATTLE OF PLEASANT HILL**  
**2025 RE-ENACTOR SCHEDULE**

**Friday, April 11, 2025**

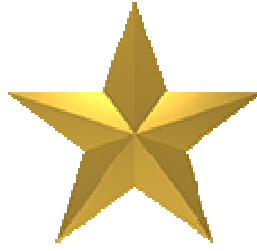
8:00	Presenters arrive and set up station
9:00 AM-1:00 PM	School Day

**Saturday, April 12, 2025**

8:00 AM	<b>ALL VEHICLES OUT OF CAMP</b>
9:15 AM	Officers Call
1:00 PM	Fall in for battle
<b>2:00 PM</b>	<b>Battle</b>
<b>5:30 PM</b>	<b>Meal at Dogtrot</b>
7:30 PM	Ball at Dogtrot

**Sunday, April 13, 2025**

8:30 AM	Officers Call
10:00 AM	Church ( <b>NO DRILL OF ANY KIND</b> )
11:00 AM	Issue of Artillery Powder
1:00 PM	Fall in for battle/Inspection
<b>2:00 PM</b>	<b>Battle</b>



**Let's try for a June 15th deadline for the next newsletter's articles so we can get one published for June 30th.**

**Please email me at [joseph.a.alamia@gmail.com](mailto: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**

