



Major's Orders

Major Benjamin F. Ficklin
Chapter 310– San Angelo
Military Order of the Stars and Bars



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Special points of interest:

March 3 – 4, 2023 Spring SEC Meeting Hilton Inn and Conference Center, College Station, Texas.

March 18, 2023 Ft. Chadbourne Marker re-dedication.

May 4-6, 2023 National MOS&B Convention.

June 9-10, 2023 Texas Society Annual Convention.

Message from Commander McMahon:

Men join groups for two main reasons, either they believe in the cause which the group supports or for fellowship with like-minded men. Sometimes it is hard to separate the reason you have joined. Nothing supports either ideology more than a Sunday School class I once took called, *Walk Across the Room*.

Nothing makes a stranger to a meeting feel more at ease than a warm handshake and a heartfelt greeting when they walk through the door. The same goes for the member that has attended over a hundred times. Everyone wants to feel like they count and are welcome. Whoever is running the meeting should be introduced to the guest also, so they can be

introduced at the opening of the meeting.

I first started this practice by standing outside the building we met at and greeting one and all as they came in. I soon had a group of guys standing with me sharing the greeting duties. I was welcomed also, by members that arrived early and took their posts. Leadership comes in many fashions, and a leader can never forget that the accomplishment of the meeting can never come before the welfare of the membership.

I hope each of you will feel welcomed to our Chapter meetings and will extend your hand in greeting to



other members.

De Colores,

David McMahon, DCS
Commander
Major Benjamin F. Ficklin
Chapter 310

UPCOMING EVENTS:

National MOS&B Convention

86th Annual National General Convention will be held on May 4 - 6, 2023 at Atlantic Beach, NC. Go to the MOS&B website: www.militaryorderofthestarsandbars.org, go to the **Members Only** tab and login. Under the Conventions tab you will find downloadable forms to fill out and mail in with your payment.

Texas Society 85th Annual Convention

June 9-10, 2023. The Hilton College Station & Conference Center 801 University Drive East, College Station, Texas 77840 (979) 693-7500

Forms, schedules and activities' information can be found at txmosb.org, go to **Conventions** tab.

April 1, 2023 Deadline to Submit MOS&B Awards Nominations

If you desire to nominate an MOSB member for recognition for service in 2022, please go to the MOS&B website/ Member Section and check out the Manual for Awards Originators and the Awards Manual. Absolute deadline for submitting nomination online is prior to midnight, April 1, 2023.

Texas Society Elections are this Year

Elections for the Texas Society Leadership will be held this year at the Society's Annual Convention in College Station, Texas.

At this time, Lieutenant Commander George W. Williamson has announced his candidacy for Texas Society Commander.

Our Chapter 310 Commander, David P. McMahon, has announced he will seek the office of Society Lieutenant Commander. You may read more about

the candidates in the Winter 2023 issue of the *Lone Star Dispatch*.

Anyone interested in running for a Society office and wish to have a notice posted in the next issue of the *Lone Star Dispatch* should contact the editor, Joe Reynolds, Joe.Reynolds@txmosb.org. You will need to note which office you seek and submit a 'bio' for printing in the May issue. This issue will be out before the Annual Convention in June.

Brownwood Member Living the Life at Ft. Griffin

Ray Johnson attended the Ft. Griffin Rendezvous and Winter Encampment for 5 days and the event lived up to its name as a winter storm blew in dropping temperatures into the 20's at night. Visitors and participants engaged in various activities such as making rag rugs, bullet making, knife and axe sharpening, cooking and other necessities.

Ray was re-elected as Commander of Gen. Tom Green Camp #1613, SCV in January and is also the current 2nd Brigade Commander of the Texas Division.

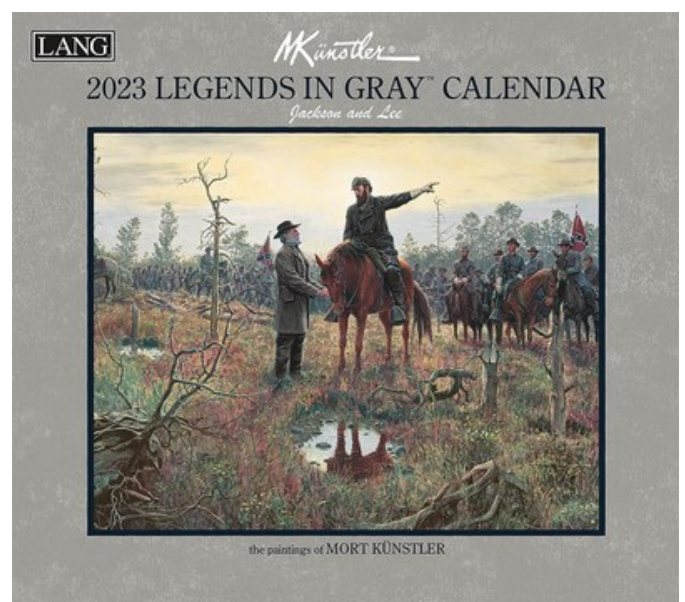


Ray Johnson

Legends in Grey

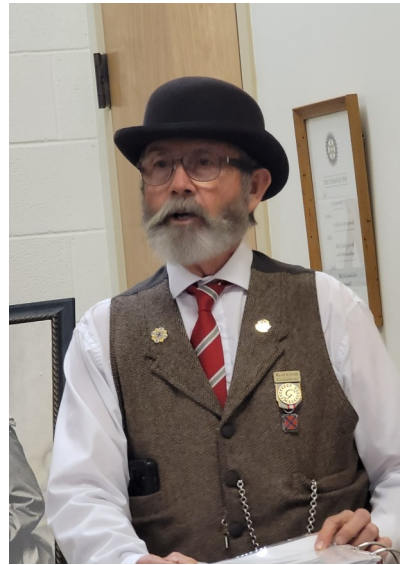
If you are one who loves the Mort Kunstler's *Legends in Grey* calendars and were smart enough to purchase the 2023 edition, know that it may be the last *Legends in Grey* calendar you will buy. The Confederate Shop, confederateshop.com, has reported that the calendar maker, Lang, lang.com, will no longer produce the *Legends in Grey* calendar series. One may wonder if this Southern censorship will also apply to the Mort Kunstler *Civil War* calendar series as it exhibits our Ancestors in Grey mixed with those of the other side.

In a response from Kunstler Enterprises, Ltd., the respondent replied, "We are currently in the process of considering our licensing options for calendars going forward." Hopefully, *Legends in Grey* will be available in 2024.



Texas Battle Flags of the Confederacy Program

Chapter member, Gary Bates, presented a wonderful program at the Chapter 310 meeting, February 18th, on Texas Confederate Battle Flags. He covered several battle flags from Texas units that served in the Confederacy. This was an informative program with histories of each flag presented. Gary noted that he made most of these flags himself from images of originals he found.



Meeting Notes:

- ◆ Saturday, March 18, Fort Chadbourne — There will be a rededication of a Confederate Monument and the unveiling of a Marker at 2:00 pm. If you wish to participate, please arrive early to muster with the appropriate unit. Ft. Chadbourne is located approximately 45 miles North of San Angelo on US Hwy 277.
- ◆ Our Chapter will have a Recruiting Table along side the Tom Green County Historical Commission at the Ft. Concho Frontier Days, **Saturday, April 22, 2023**. Anyone wishing to participate is welcome, time is 7:30 am to 1:00 pm. The Ft. Concho Annual Cavalry Competition will also be going on at this time. Table location will be on the OQ 1 porch. (Officer's Quarters).
- ◆ **Saturday, April 29, 2023** at 10:00 am, there will be a Confederate Memorial Day and San Jacinto Battle Veterans Memorial at Fairmount Cemetery, San Angelo. Participants for the firing line may dress out in Texas Revolution and/or Confederate attire and are requested to be there at 9:15 a.m.
- ◆ It was announced that there is a new Awards Manual out.

Sparkman Participates in Powder Shoot

Chapter Member Arlie Sparkman of Sheffield was elected 1st Lt. Commander of the Judge Roy Bean Camp #2298 in January. Congratulations to him. Arlie also participated in the "3rd Annual Commander Stu Carter Black Powder Shoot" in Sheffield, Texas.



Arlie Sparkman, Bob Hazelwood, and Tom Harrison.

Arlie Sparkman with a Navy Colt .44 at the Cmdr Stu Carter Black Powder Shoot.





MAJOR BENJAMIN F. FICKLIN
CHAPTER 310

COMMANDER DAVID P. MCMAHON
LT. COMMANDER ROBERT S. MELTON
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Maj. Benjamin F. Ficklin Chapter 310 website:
www.txmosb.org/310/index.html.

National website:
www.militaryorderofthestarsandbars.org

Texas website: www.txmosb.org

Military Order of the Stars and Bars Pledge



We, the posterity of the Officer Corps and civil officials of the Confederacy, do pledge ourselves to commemorate and honor the service of leadership these men rendered in the cause of the fundamental American principles of self-determination and states' rights and to perpetuate the true history of their deeds for the edification of ourselves, our society and for generations yet unborn.



One of Gary Bate's Texas Confederate Unit Flags. Since I was one of the flag holders, I wasn't able to keep track of which flag belong to each unit.