



“Major’s Orders”

Major Benjamin F. Ficklin
Chapter 310

Military Order of the
Stars and Bars



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MARCH 2024

Special Dates of Interest:

March 14-17, 2024 - GEC meeting at ‘The Lodge’ Pickwick State Park, Counce, Tenn.

March 22-23, 2024 - Texas Society SEC meeting at College Station.

June 6-9, 2024 - Texas Society Convention at the Hilton College Station Conference Center, College Station, Texas.

Lt. Commander’s Lowdown

We held our regular quarterly meeting on February 17, 2024 and had a good attendance. There were a few trying to attend via Zoom but, technical difficulties prevented their log on. I attempted to join the Zoom meeting myself onsite and was not able. I am thinking of bringing a bigger hammer to hammer out these issues!

Commander McMahon presented us with a state of our Chapter being the dues renewal period has just closed. Over the past year we have gained 4 new members which brings our Chapter to 26 members. These new members are James Paul Kerbow, James Russell Foster, Edward Lee Steward (Re-instated/Transfer) and Robert Lewis Duckworth (Transfer).

He went on to announce that as a Chapter, we received the award for #2 Best Chapter within the entire MOS&B in 2022. Commander McMahon was awarded the Gold Star Award at last

year’s National Convention. This is the Order’s second highest award presented to any member.

During the meeting we recognized the years of service of all our members for the coming year. We have a combined 308 total years of service. The following members are noted for their service to the MOS&B throughout this year: **Robert L. Duckworth – 32 years on 25 Feb.;** **William V. Scott – 26 years on 1 June;** **Gary E. Bates – 26 years on 30 June;** **G. Darrell Rhea – 25 years on 21 April;** William F. Bowen – 23 years on 6 Nov.; Kevin J. Wilson – 22 years on 27 Feb.; Eddie L. Cox -21 years on 20 Oct.; James P. Farrar – 20 years on 13 Feb; William S. Farrar – 20 years on 3 May; Ward Slack – 20 years on 28 Dec.; David P. McMahon – 6 years on 1 May; James G. Putman – 6 years on 24 Oct.; Lee Hise – 6 years on 19 Nov.; Roy E.

(Continued on page 2)

Inside this issue:

Irish Confederates 3

New Member & New Officers 4

Captains of the 38th Arkansas Infantry

Captain Joshua Wann
The First Arkansas Regiment, a 30-day volunteer Confederate unit was formed by Captain Joshua Wann, Co. E, in Scott township, Lawrence county. This call came from Colonel Borland and were organized to meet the threat of a union invasion that appeared imminent in northeast Arkansas. The enlistment period was 19 November to 19 December 1861, where they were discharged at Camp Borland, near Pocahontas, Ar-

kansas. After this enlistment was over, many of the men in this unit became Co. B, 38th Arkansas Infantry with Joshua Wann as Captain.

Captain M. Beshoar
Company E, was commanded by Captain M. Beshoar, organized in Pocahontas, Randolph County, Arkansas, on July 8, 1862. On the Colorado SCV web-

(Continued on page 3)

Lt. Commander’s Lowdown (con’t)

(Continued from page 1)

Fiveash – 6 years on 28 Nov.; Robert Stevens Melton - 6 years on 12 Dec.; Roderick R. Smith - 5 years on 3 Jan.; David M. Johnson – 5 years on 16 Jan.; Charles A. Westbrook – 5 years on 16 Jan.; Arlie D. Sparkman – 5 years on 23 Jan.; Rayburn E. Bunton – 5 years on 8 Feb.; Christopher W. Fiveash - 5 years on 9 Feb.; Christopher C. Roque – 5 years on 10 April; Edward L. Steward Simpson – 3 years on 4 July; Mack W. Johnson – 3 years on 9 July; James P. Kerbow – 1 year on 10 Sept.; and James R. Foster – 1 year on 29 Dec. Darrell Rhea was present at the meeting to receive his 20-year service award.

On the agenda side, we selected delegates for the upcoming Conventions. The following are our delegates: **Delegates to the General Convention on May 16-18, 2024, in Springfield, MO**, David P. McMahon, James G. Putman, and James P. Kerbow.

Delegates to the Texas Society Annual Meeting on June 21-22, 2024 in College Station, TX, David P. McMahon, R. Stevens Melton, James Putman, and James P. Kerbow. If anyone that was not able to attend the meeting and wishes to be a delegate, there are delegate positions available. Contact Commander McMahon to be added as a delegate.

We addressed the sponsorship of a 2024 Scholarship application for Miss Jayleigh Munroe Foster, daughter of Compatriot James Russell Foster. She will be a graduate of an Amarillo high school this spring and has been accepted for fall admission to Abilene Christian University. The chapter voted unanimously to send a letter of chapter sponsorship to the Scholarship Committee endorsing Miss Fos-

ter’s application.

It was time once again to elect officers for the next two-year term. After nominations from the floor were opened, a motion was made to re-elect the current officers to another term as they have done an excellent job thus far. Commander David P. McMahon and Lt. Commander R. Stevens Melton were elected for another term. Adjutant James G. Putman and Chaplain Christopher C. Roque were reappointed to serve another term. The swearing in ceremony was conducted immediately thereafter by National Society Daughters of the Officer Corps Treasurer-Registrar General Golda Foster – McMahon.

Texas Society Adjutant Melton presented a state of the Society indicating our Society is growing with 23 new member this past year. We as a Society had a net growth of 7 members still making Texas the largest Society in the MOS&B.

Compatriot Darrell Rhea blessed us with his Irish Brigades of the Confederacy display and program. His display included three Irish Brigade flags and several books on Irish Confederates and General Patrick Cleburne. He donated a book *“The Green and the Gray, Irish in the Confederate States of America”* for the door prize.

The MOS&B 2022-2023 Roster Book is available for \$25 at chapter meetings. If you desire the book mailed to you, the total amount is \$31. Make checks payable to: David McMahon, 6053 Winners Cir, San Angelo, TX 76904-9366.



Compatriot Darrell Rhea receiving his 20 Year Service Award from Commander David McMahon.



Captains of the 38th Arkansas Infantry (con’t)

(Continued from page 1)

site I discovered that a Michael Beshoar served as a Colorado State Representative from Los Animas (1881-1882). They show him as a Major of the 7th Arkansas Infantry-CSA. The 7th and 38th Arkansas Infantry’s were under the command of Colonel Shaver. With consolidations of the various units under Shaver’s command, it is very likely this is the same man moving up in rank and position.

Captain James L. Sexton
James Sexton was the Captain of Co. A of the 38th Arkansas Infantry. His company was formed in Lauratown, Arkansas June 17, 1862. James Lamie Sexton was born 15 Dec 1831 in Chatham Hill, Smyth County, Virginia, to Joseph and Maria (McDonald) Sexton. He married on 08 Dec 1861 in Lawrence County, Arkansas, to Susan Craig Cox, daughter of John LeGrande Cox and Mary



Craig (Graham) Cox. He enlisted in Company A, 38th Arkansas Infantry (Shaver) on 09 Jul 1862 at Lauratown, Lawrence County. Captain Sexton returned after the war to Lawrence County, where he taught school and farmed. Susan died of consumption in March 1870, burial place unknown. James next married 10 Oct 1872 in Lawrence County to widow Jane D. Wilkins. Captain Sexton died in 1900 at Campbell, Lawrence County, burial place unknown.

Under the command of Captain Sexton, Co. A, there was a Private W. A. Melton, who after the war moved to Jonesboro, Texas. The grandson of W. A. Melton married the granddaughter of a 2nd Lt. J.D. Sexton. Coincidence in names?

Stevens Melton &
Cora Belle *Sexton* Melton.



Irish Confederates

Darrell Rhea was in attendance at the meeting this month and brought with him his Confederate Irish display. He created this display honoring his Irish ancestry. His display covers various aspects of the Confederate Irish and recognizes some of the Commanders who were of Irish decent.

He also brought a collection of Irish unit flags for our members to view.

Thank you Darrell Rhea for sharing your work and knowledge about these fine Southern men.





MAJOR BENJAMIN F. FICKLIN
CHAPTER #310, TEXAS SOCIETY
COMMANDER DAVID P. MCMAHON
LT. COMMANDER STEVE MELTON
ADJUTANT JAMES G. PUTMAN
EDITOR STEVE MELTON

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Maj. Benjamin F. Ficklin Chapter 310 website: www.txmosb.org/310/index.html

MOS&B National website: <https://mainmosbihq.org>

Texas Society website: www.txmosb.org

Military Order of the Stars and Bars Bledge

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.



New Member & New Officers

Our Chapter has grown this past year. One of our new members, James Paul Kerbow, was present at the meeting. He was sworn in by Commander David McMahon using the General Joseph Shelby ceremonial replica sword and the chapter's Bible.



The Major Benjamin F. Ficklin Chapter 310 officers for 2024-2026 are (l-r) Robert Steve Melton—Lt. Commander, David McMahon—Commander, and James Putman—Adjutant.

New member James Paul Kerbow (l), being sworn in by Commander McMahon (with sword) and Adjutant Putman looking on.

