



APRIL 2023

# Major's Orders

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



VOLUME I ISSUE 4

## Special points of interest:

- 9 April—Easter
- 29 April—San Jacinto/Confederate Memorial Day @ Fairmount Cemetery, San Angelo
- 4-6 May—National MOSB Convention
- 9-10 June—Texas Society Annual Convention

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## Commander's Comments

Our Commander, David McMahon and our Adjutant, James Putman, are on their way to the GEC meeting in Natchez, Mississippi, with their wives. On their way there they drove by Blair's Landing, the battlefield where General Tom Green was killed.

The **Battle of Blair's Landing** (April 12, 1864) saw a Confederate cavalry-artillery force commanded by Brigadier General Tom Green attack several Union gunboats led by Rear Admiral David Dixon Porter and soldiers in river transports under

Brigadier General Thomas Kilby Smith in Red River Parish, Louisiana. Green's force attempted but failed to stop the retreat of Porter's and Smith's forces downstream in an action that was part of the Red River Campaign of the American Civil War. The only significant casualty during the fighting was Green, who was killed by an artillery round.



(L-R) Commander McMahon and Adjutant Putman at the historical marker.

More pictures on page 4

## Upcoming Conventions

### 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](http://txmosb.org), go to **Conventions** tab.

### National MOS&B Convention

86th Annual National General Convention/Vacation that will be held on May 4 - 6, 2023 at Atlantic Beach, North

Carolina. Go to the MOS&B website: [www.militaryorderofthestarsandbars.org](http://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.

## Ft. Chadbourne Monument Rededication

The weather for the Confederate Monument rededication was pleasant and the attendance very good at Fort Chadbourne. There was a contingent from Gainesville, Texas on hand representing the United Daughters of Confederacy, Order of the Confederate Rose and the SCV Camp located there.

There was also a Father and Son from Pflugerville, Texas present dressed in full uniform.

The OCR and UDC organization of Gainesville have been raising mon-

ey for the restoration of the Monument as it had fallen into disrepair. Events transpired causing the removal of the Monument before repairs could be made. These organizations presented the Fort Chadbourne Foundation with the money raised.

The ceremony opened with Anne Pate and Garland Richards of the Fort Chadbourne Foundation followed by representatives from the MOSB Texas Society, David McMahan, UDC, Linda Turner,

Angie Hare and Pam Cooper of Texas OCR, SCV Texas Division Commander John McCammon and the fine Boys in Grey of Goode's Light Artillery Battery and Texas 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry.

Goode's Light Artillery Battery, commanded by Major Ray Johnson (MOSB & SCV), and Texas 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry, commanded by Captain Harold Johnston (SCV), fired three volleys in memory of all who served in the Confederacy.



Goode's Light Artillery and Texas 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry

(Right) Monument's new home



## April Is Confederate History Month



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The month of April is recognized as Confederate History Month and it is a special time for us to promote our Southern Heritage and expound the history of Our Confederate Ancestors. There will be Confederate Memorial/Texas Hero's Day service at the Fairmount Cemetery in San Angelo, on April 29th, at 10:00 AM. All are invited to attend this ceremony.

As most have heard there is a "other side" commission that has the goal to eradicate all things Confederate from America's military and they are set to begin changing the names of military installations March 31. Ft. Pickett, Virginia, named for Major General George Pickett, will be the first victim to have its name changed. Several military units will

lose 'streamers' from their unit's guidon, among them are two Texas National Guard units, 141st Infantry Regiment (San Antonio, TX) will lose 26, and 143d Infantry Regiment (Fort Worth, TX) will lose 5. It appears to be a coincidence that such despicable actions are starting just as we begin Confederate History Month.

## Texas SEC Meeting

At the March SEC meeting in College Station, we had a report from Commander Joe Reynolds about the new Chapter in Temple. He also said that he was in communications with an At-Large member and they were discussing the possibilities of creating a Chapter in the Ft. Worth area. There was a reminder to all of the Texas Society Convention coming in June at which point, Commanding General Johnnie Holley reported on the major cost increase of the Convention, Food. Just like our

weekly trip to the grocery store, we know all about the increases of the food we eat.

Lt. Commander Williamson reported that the Texas Society has 195 members. There was a brief report on the closing of Chapter 264 by David McMahan and that several of those members have transferred to Chapter 310. Our Chapter Commander, David McMahan, has been compiling a MOS&B roster book. National membership over the last two

years has increased from 1400 to 1600 members. As previously reported about the Texas Star Awards, the award medal design has been set and they have been ordered. It was determined that the Society would not receive them in time for our State Convention; therefore they will be available for next year. The MOS&B store has been re-opened after moving to another web hosting company.

(con't back page)

## MOSB National Roster Book

The MOSB National Roster Books have been completed and are now available for sale. The cost of this book of MOSB members will be \$25.00. Contact David McMahan via email: [dmctx.mosbtx@gmail.com](mailto:dmctx.mosbtx@gmail.com) to reserve your copy. Supplies are limited.

A Roster book was published two years ago and sold out.

It has been noted that Our membership has risen from 1400 to 1600 members in two years.

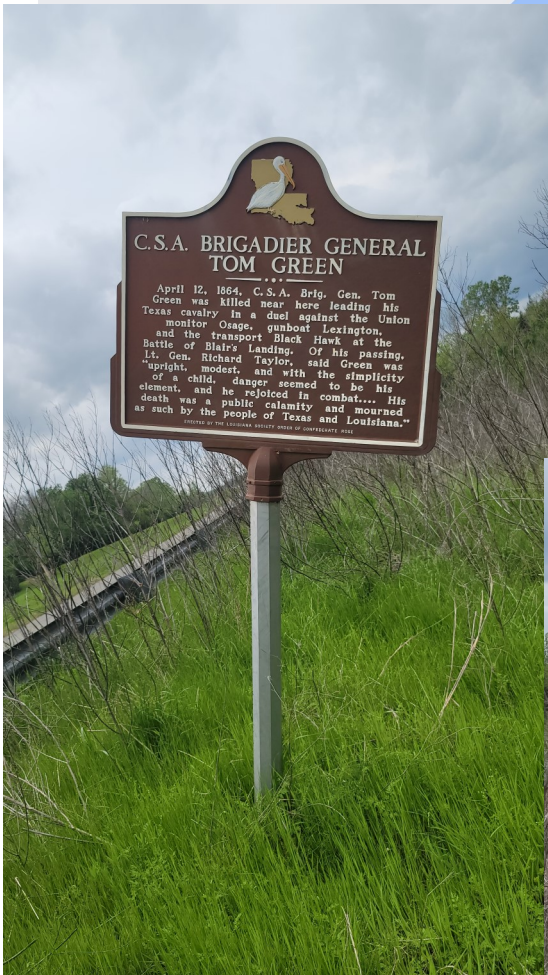
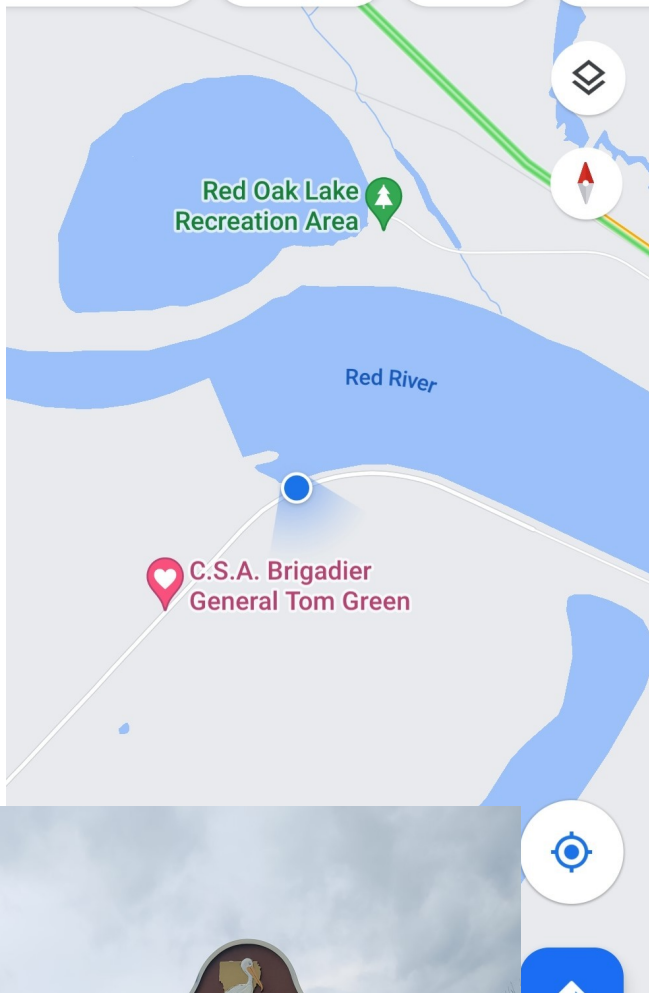
“membership has risen from 1400 to 1600 members in two years”

## MOS&B Store is Back Online

The MOS&B web store is up and running again and with a makeover. The new display and arrangement of items available will make your shopping pleasurable. Yes, I know, we are men, we go in, get what we want and get out. You can find the MOS&B store at a new web ad-

dress of [www.store.mosbihq.org](http://www.store.mosbihq.org) or click on the “Store” tab on the national website.

# On The Way



Clockwise—Map of the area, Golda Foster-McMahon and Jeri Putman, Gen. Tom Green historical marker and the Red River. The Red River's course has altered over the years creating the swamp in the foreground.





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CHAPTER 310

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Maj. Benjamin F. Ficklin Chapter 310 website: [www.txmosb.org/310/index.html](http://www.txmosb.org/310/index.html).

National website: [www.militaryorderofthestarsandbars.org](http://www.militaryorderofthestarsandbars.org)

Texas website: [www.txmosb.org](http://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.*

## Texas SEC Meeting (con't)

There was a discussion about the number of At-Large members within Texas and the possibility of creating a Texas At-Large Chapter for them. Many who are At-Large have no contact with the Society other than their certificate and the state Societies do not receive any notice of their membership. It was discussed about having a "Membership Year Bar" created for the Membership medal in increments starting at 5 years, 10 years, etc., but this was determined to be a

National subject matter, not a State Society.

ATM Councilor Dennis Brand stated that the Texas Society is the largest within the ATM, followed by Missouri and California...whoa, wait... California???

Lt. Commander George Williamson announced his candidacy for Texas Commander and Adjutant David McMahan announced his candidacy for Lt. Commander.

## Deadlines for Conventions

### National Convention

Pre-registration Deadline is April 15th. There is an additional registration cost after the 15th.

### Texas Society Convention

#### Deadline

May 10, 2023 is the deadline for pre-registering for the Convention.