



Clarion Call

Texas Society, Military Order of Stars & Bars

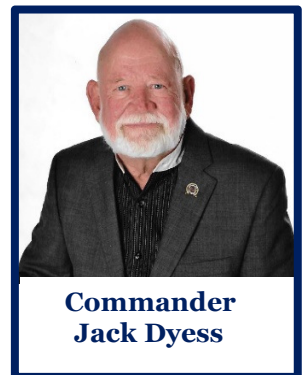
Volume 12, Issue 1,

February in the Year of Our Lord 2016

THE TEXAS SOCIETY COMMANDER'S REPORT

Jack Dyess, Commander

I must report, with an extremely heavy heart, the passing of our good friend and brother, Jim Templin. Jim served in just about every capacity in his Chapter and Society and several at the National level. He is irreplaceable and will be sorely missed – especially by me and the other Texas Society officers. Jim was instrumental in helping plan the first MOS&B cruise, the next item in my report. In fact, just three weeks prior to his passing, he was still planning to participate in the cruise.



**Commander
Jack Dyess**

We are seeking ways of bringing our membership closer together by attempting to think of, and plan, unique events in which many of our members, hopefully, will participate. You will recall we sent an email a few months ago inviting Texas Society members to participate in an eight-day cruise aboard a Carnival cruise ship to Key West, Freeport, Nassau and returning to Galveston. In order to receive reduced fares, we needed to fill eight cabins. Unfortunately, only seven MOS&B members and spouses registered for the cruise. However, at almost the last minute, two of our UDC sisters asked to join us. With their participation, we met our minimum number of cabins, received our discounted fares and sailed off into the Gulf on February 14, 2016.

It turned into a great trip with the members strengthening their bonds of friendship and brotherhood. All agreed that we should make the cruise an annual event. We plan to organize another MOS&B cruise from Galveston, to Jamaica, Grand Cayman, Cozumel and back to Galveston departing February 11, 2017. We hope many of you will make plans to join us. More information will be provided as we get closer to the sailing date. However, if you are interested in joining us, let me know and I will put you on the “first come, first serve” list.

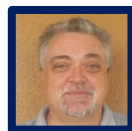
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TEXAS SOCIETY OFFICERS



Commander

Jack Dyess
Haltom City
jplssail@earthlink.net



Lieutenant Commander

Ewell Loudermilk
San Angelo
rebelboy264@yahoo.com



Adjutant

Jay Bowden
Waxahachie
jaygdyr@yahoo.com



Communications Officer

Glenn Toal
Ferris
glennsuzy@gmail.com



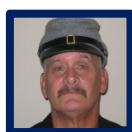
Judge Advocate /Parliamentarian

Gary M. Loudermilk
Brownwood
gmldhl@harrisbb.com



Inspector General

Steve von Roeder
Austin
svroeder@sbcglobal.net



Color Sergeant

Pat Fogerson
Fort Worth
cfogerson@windstream.net



Webmaster

Gary L. Loudermilk
Haskell
xmosb264@valomet.com



Clarion Call Editor

Larry Wilhoite
Waxahachie
l.wilhoite@sbcglobal.net

TEXAS SOCIETY CHAPTERS

#5 The Texas Chapter Houston

Commander John Burdine
jtburdine@gmail.com

#68 Felix H. Robertson Fort Worth

Commander Pat Fogerson
Sulrossrebel@yahoo.com

#121 Haley – Holt Midland

Commander James Evetts Haley
ehjrbeefeater@att.net

#137 Lone Star Dallas

Commander Richard Smoot
respin@flash.net

#184 Lawrence Sullivan Ross San Antonio

Commander Max Strozier
maxstrozier@gmail.com

261 Col. Richard Bennett Hubbard Tyler

Commander Johnnie Holley
jlh63@flash.net

#264 Major John Loudermilk Comanche

Commander Gary L. Loudermilk
dlldesign@airmail.net

#273 Colonel W. H. Parsons Ennis

Commander Robby Kever
rlkeever@sbcglobal.net

#276 Colonel Benjamin H. Norsworthy Orange

Commander Granvel J. Block
granvelb@gt.rr.com

#279 Colonel Benjamin Morris Fort Worth

Commander William R. Morris
817-626-9039

Texas Society Commander's Report

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Our 2016 Texas Society Annual Meeting will be held on April 29 – 30, 2016 at the YO Ranch Convention Center in Kerrville, Texas. The Texas Society accounts for more than forty percent of the entire membership of the MOS&B. Unfortunately, we seldom have more than 30 to 40 of our members attend our state conventions. With that small number of attendees, it is extremely difficult to reach a consensus on any issue much less make plans to advance an agenda that allows us to promote the Cause our organization represents. As a result, although we have almost half the members in the MOS&B, none of the elected national officers are Texas residents. We have gone to great lengths to find a suitable, and appealing, convention site near the geographical center of our membership; provide above average meals and meeting rooms; keep costs the same as the previous year; secure lodging at a below market price; and provide sightseeing time in a premier tourist location. I sincerely hope each of you will make a strong effort to attend our state convention and help us decide what we need to do as an organization to promote the Cause for which we stand. More information concerning the convention can be found on the last page of the *Clarion Call*.

I have found that one of the most enjoyable benefits of MOS&B membership is attending and participating in the MOS&B National Conventions. It is here that you make friends from all parts of the country. You are able to participate in numerous social, educational and sightseeing events that make the trip truly memorable. The business meetings are reasonably short and extremely informative. In order to have influence over decisions made at the national level, it is imperative that Texas Society members attend the national conventions. Please plan to attend the 79th Annual General Convention in Fairhope, Alabama, May 19-21, 2016. Additional General Convention information is included on page five of the *Clarion Call*.

I recently visited the Texas Chapter #5 in Houston as their program presenter. I greatly enjoyed the experience and certainly appreciate their wonderful "Southern" hospitality. I have now visited and presented a program at three of our chapters. I would very much like to visit every chapter in the Society. If you would like for me to present a program at one of your meetings, I would love to do so. Just contact me at jplsail@earthlink.net and I will send you an abstract of the various programs I normally present.

If you have any ideas or suggestions as to how we can improve our organization, please call me at 817-946-2099 or send me an email. I really want to hear from you.

Sincerely,

Jack

Visit our web site

texasmosb.com

In Memorium

The Military Order of the Stars and Bars, and more specifically the Texas Society, lost two of its stalwarts since the last *Clarion Call*. Both will be missed by all who knew them.

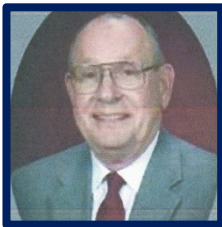


LYNDAL RAY STOCKS

September 13, 1937 – September 28, 2015

Lyndal Ray Stocks was born in Commerce, Texas on September 13, 1937 to Allen Lokey and Mattie Lou Stocks. Surrounded by his family and friends, Ray departed this life and crossed over the river on September 28, 2015. Ray is survived by his lovely wife Kathy; his children Lisa Stocks, Jennifer Weston and husband Jeff, Shelby Stocks, Katie Edwards and husband Michael; five grandchildren and two great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and son Kenneth Allen Stocks.

Ray spent his entire working career in the insurance industry. He was a devoted family man, loving time spent with his family. He was very active in the Texas Society, Military Order of the Stars and Bars, serving as state commander. When he was able, Ray attended all conventions and functions of the MOS&B. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him. Until we meet again, Ray, rest in peace.



JAMES CHARLES “JIM” TEMPLIN

March 15, 1939 – February 9, 2016

James Charles Templin, better known as “Jim” to all who knew him, crossed over the river on February 9, 2016 after a short illness.

Jim was born in Ennis, Texas on March 15, 1939 to Lee and Mabel Keith Templin. He graduated from Ennis High School and the University Of Texas College Of Pharmacy. He was an employee of and partner in Hesser Drug Company until his retirement in 1997.

On May 14, 1983, Jim married Helen Wall Rankin. Helen preceded him in death on December 8, 2012.

Jim was a member of the First Christian Church in Ennis, where he served as an elder for many years. In his later years, he became interested in genealogy, leading to membership in many hereditary societies including the Society of Magna Charta Barons, Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims, Sons of

the American Revolution, The Order of the Southern Cross, and the Military Order of the Stars and Bars where he was awarded the status of Honorary Commander General. He was past commander of the Texas Society, MOS&B and was a founding member of the Col. W. H. Parsons Chapter 273, MOS&B, Ennis. He served as Genealogist General, Texas Society genealogist and Texas Society Chaplin. Where there was a need, there also was Jim, ready to serve. He was the Parsons chapter adjutant from its founding until his passing. Jim served in many civil capacities including 24 years on the Ennis Public Library Board, the Ennis Public Theater and the Railroad and Cultural Heritage Museum.

Jim leaves some very large shoes to fill and he will always be remembered for the role he played with the lives he touched. Rest in peace, our friend, until we meet again.

Make Plans Now to Attend

Military Order of the Stars & Bars Convention

**May 19 – 20, 2016
Fairhope, Alabama**

Hampton Inn
23 North Section Street
Fairhope, AL 36532

\$109 per night / \$119 for studio
check in May 18
call 251-928-0956

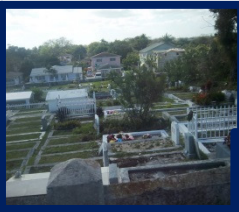
For more information visit www.militaryorderofthestarsandbars.org

Texas MOS&B Cruises Caribbean

By Richard Smoot

Normally, the men of the Texas Society of the MOS&B are spread throughout the enormous expanse of the state of Texas, but for a few days in February, a few men and their ladies and friends were concentrated on the relatively small world of the Carnival Magic cruise ship. The close proximity of a ship, albeit a very large one, enabled compatriots who knew each other only slightly, or not at all, to become closely acquainted quickly.

Seas were a little choppy, especially to the three people who had never cruised before, but never was anyone very uncomfortable or unable to enjoy the shore excursions or ship-board entertainments.



Among the highlights was the evening dinner at which most members joined for most nights. We had two tables. A sort of rivalry grew up over which table would be served first, a natural occurrence for the stalwart descendants of the Confederate warriors. It was a battle won by all.

The Caribbean world is lovely, and the compatriots enjoyed a variety of excursions, ranging from water-oriented to land-based tours.

The biggest benefit of this type of activity is not the tours or the scenery, but the opportunity to meet and interact closely with men and women of similar interest in the accomplishments and sacrifices of our Southern ancestors. For me, this was a very worthwhile and rewarding few days in the middle of winter.



2016 MOS&B Cruisers

(Clockwise from upper left)

James Graham (member, #261, Tyler), Cheryl Graham, Glenn Toal (Past Texas Society Commander and member #273, Ennis), Anita Daniel, Richard Smoot (Commander #137, Dallas), Jack Dyess (Texas Society Commander), James Cantrell (Member #5, Houston), Betty Arnold, William Carrell (Member #279, Fort Worth), Debra Lochtrog, Gail Lundberg, Diane Dyess, Susie Toal

Across the State - Texas Society Chapter News

COL. RICHARD B. HUBBARD **Chapter 261 Tyler**

The Col. Richard B. Hubbard, Chapter 261, Military Order of Stars and Bars, has a roster of 21 active members and two non-active life members. We added three new members this quarter. One member died, one transferred and one did not renew.



We elected new officers in December, who were sworn in at our Lee-Jackson Birthday Banquet. Our new officers are Johnnie Holley, Commander; John Threadgill, 1st Lt. Commander, and John Haynes, Adjutant. Texas Division Commander of MOS&B, Jack Dyess, assisted by Past Commander Larry Wilhoite, installed the officers.

A total of 55 members and guests attended our Lee-Jackson Banquet. Our program was a Celebration of Life for Past Commander Bobby Davidson. Commander Davidson was one of the founders and charter members of the Hubbard chapter. He served in many positions at both the chapter and state level. Bobby will be sorely missed by all.

All the members of the chapter made a pledge to our new officers that we will be a more active camp this year and increase our membership.

It was a privilege to serve this past year as Commander of Chapter 261.

Dennis Brand, Past Commander

MAJOR JOHN LOUDERMILK **Chapter 264 Comanche**

With battle flags flying, two compatriots from the Major John Loudermilk Chapter 264, Comanche, Texas, Texas Society Lt. Commander Ewell Loudermilk and Compatriot Will Bowan, along with re-enactors from Co. H, 7th Texas Infantry and Co. I, 8th Texas Cavalry, participated in the San Angelo Rodeo parade. The crowds who lined the parade route cheered enthusiastically as the Confederates passed by. Great job and well done!



COL. W. H. PARSONS Chapter 273 Ennis

The Col. W. H. Parsons Chapter 273 lost a very dear friend and compatriot on 9 February 2016 with the passing of James Charles "Jim" Templin. Jim was the guiding force behind the chartering of our chapter and served in many capacities, including adjutant since its chartering. Jim will be sorely missed by all who knew him. We have some very large shoes to fill.

We held our quarterly meeting on 27 October 2015 in Waxahachie. Texas Society commander Jack Dyess attended and presented past society commander Larry Wilhoite with a "Past Commander" medal. The program *Texans and Their Confederate Flags, Part 1* was presented by Commander Larry Wilhoite and wife Pam. We had 7 members and 4 guests present.



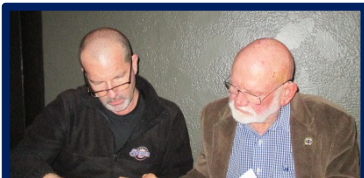
At our 26 January meeting Robert L. "Robby" Keever was elected Commander. Tony Sinclair retained his post as Lt. Commander and Larry Wilhoite was appointed adjutant to replace Jim Templin. Lt Commander Tony Sinclair presented our program on the *CSS Virginia*.



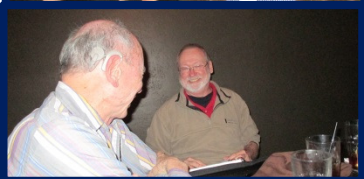
We continue to monitor our cemeteries, Confederate sites and memorials for any incidents of vandalism. On 16 December 2015, Compatriot Glenn Toal and wife Suzy placed a wreath on the grave of Captain Mark Latimer at Myrtle Cemetery in Ennis. No evidence of any vandalism has been detected as yet.

LONE STAR Chapter 137 Dallas

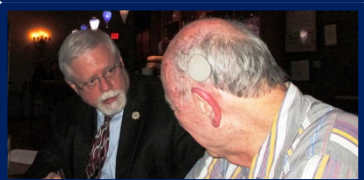
On January 4, 2016, the application for the reactivation of MOS&B Lone Star Chapter # 137 was approved by the International Headquarters. The application was approved upon the transfer or initial membership of six compatriots: Jack Dyess, Nicholas Gilliam, Michael Upchurch, Richard Smoot, Allen Harrison and Frank Richard Brown.



At a previous meeting conducted on December 7, 2015, provisional officers were elected. They are: Commander, Richard Smoot; Lt Commander, Nicholas Gilliam; Adjutant, Michael Upchurch. The group voted to meet quarterly.



Chapter members see the revived Lone Star Chapter as a necessary step in the growth and relevance of the MOS&B in the Dallas area. The absence of a Dallas chapter left a void, as the existing chapters in Fort Worth, Tyler, and Ennis were perceived by many as being too far away for meaningful participation. Lone Star should be able to appeal to members who may have fallen away.



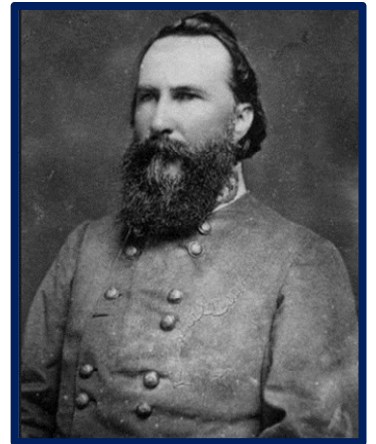
Lone Star Chapter officers appreciate the understanding of the Parsons Chapter and other chapters in assisting in the formation of our chapter. We hope to serve our organization and Cause as best we can.

Longstreet's Texas Connection

By David Hudgins

James Longstreet was a native Georgian, but most of his military career had Texas connections. He was born on January 8, 1821, the third son and fifth child of James and Mary Ann Longstreet. As a young boy in Gainesville, Georgia, his family called him Peter or just Pete. James read books about Alexander the Great, Caesar, Napoleon and George Washington. In 1838 he left for West Point. He was six feet two inches on a powerful frame. Longstreet's class of 1842 would produce ten Confederate generals and seven Union commanders. Longstreet's best friend, Ulysses S. Grant, was from the class of 1843. He even served as best man at Grant's wedding.

In 1844, Congress approved Texas to join the United States. This action severed relations with Mexico and initiated a border war. Major General Zachary Taylor was ordered by President Polk to the eastern border of Texas. Longstreet was part of the regiment sent to Texas. He was promoted to Second Lieutenant on March 4, 1845 and assigned to the Eighth Infantry. James learned tactics and strategy under actual combat conditions on the battlefields of the Mexican War. In February of 1847, James was promoted to First Lieutenant because of his actions on the battlefield. While attacking the walls of Chapultepec, Mexico, Longstreet, carrying the company flag, was at the front of the Eighth Infantry. When he was shot in the leg, he handed the flag to a young lieutenant by the name of George E. Pickett.



After the Mexican War (1846 – 1847) Longstreet met his wife, Louise Garland. They married on March 8, 1848 and moved to San Antonio, Texas in 1849. He resumed his duties as Adjutant of the Eighth Infantry. The army's role was now to protect Texas settlements and wagon trains from Indian attacks. In December 1852 he was again promoted, this time to the rank of Captain. In 1854, his best friend Ulysses S. Grant was asked to resign from the army due to his binge drinking. Longstreet loaned Grant money from time to time.

Captain Longstreet was transferred to Fort Bliss, located about three miles from El Paso, Texas. The four years James and Louise spent at Fort Bliss was perhaps the happiest period of their lives. Two sons had been born while they lived in San Antonio. A daughter was born in 1856 followed by another son, James Jr. in 1857.

In November 1860, Abraham Lincoln was elected President. Longstreet did not embrace secession, but his uncle had taught him the doctrine of states' rights at an early age. He decided that his allegiance belonged to the South. Longstreet resigned his commission of twenty years and was quickly appointed C.S.A. Brigadier General under P. G. T. Beauregard. The family moved from Fort Bliss to San Antonio, a place they would stay for most of the war. Longstreet said his good byes and left for Richmond, Virginia. On the way he met a young Texan by the name of Thomas Jewett Goree.

Longstreet thought young Goree was “an intelligent, clever Texan”. Goree served as his staff officer throughout the war.

President Jefferson Davis appointed Robert E. Lee to take command of the Confederate Army when General Johnston was seriously wounded in battle. Longstreet quickly won General Lee’s trust with his battle field performance. Along with Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson, they became Lee’s right hand men.

In January 1862 Longstreet was dealt a crushing blow when he learned that three of his children had died of scarlet fever. News of this loss came during the Peninsula Campaign. He held up well in battle, but his heart was back in Texas with his family.

On May 5, 1864, the battle of the Wilderness began with General Lee attacking Union General Meade’s right flank. The name of the battle comes from the dense woodland area which Meade had tried to cross to reach the Confederate capital at Richmond, Virginia. Later that evening, General Lee ordered Longstreet to make a night march to reach the Wilderness by the next morning. However, the march through the dense forest took longer than expected. Three Union divisions over ran the Confederate line and a full retreat was under way. General Lee tried to make a stand until reinforcements could arrive, but it looked like all was lost. All of a sudden Longstreet’s Texas Division rushed from the woods and hit the Union Army head on. This turned the battle, and now the Union Army was in full retreat. Longstreet rode through the woods to get a better idea of the situation. He was mistaken for a Union officer and was fired on by his own men. A bullet passed through his neck and shoulder, paralyzing his right arm. By October, Longstreet had recovered and returned to duty.

In April of 1865, General Lee knew the war was over for the South. He worried that U. S. General Grant might demand a harsh surrender. Longstreet reassured Lee that Grant would be fair. As Lee left for Appomattox to surrender, Longstreet told him “General, if he does not give us good terms, come back and let us fight it out.” These words were his final counsel with Lee.

Longstreet and staff officer Goree reached Lynchburg, Virginia, on April 13, 1865 to meet up with Longstreet’s wife and children. He felt his fortune might lie in Texas. They headed south. Longstreet then decided to go to New Orleans and Goree headed for Texas. Young Goree corresponded often with his old commander and saw him on occasion.

On January 2, 1904, General Longstreet became ill at his daughter’s home in Georgia. His old Wilderness wound had reopened, and he began to hemorrhage. He died later that evening. As his pallbearers prepared to lower his casket, an old Confederate Veteran walked up and laid part of his old uniform and enlistment papers on the lid of the coffin. His comrades understood the respect from the old veteran.



Texas Society 2016 Annual Meeting - April 29 - 30

Our 2016 Texas Society Annual Meeting will be held near the geographic center of our membership—the ***YO Ranch Convention Center in Kerrville, Texas***. We are able to keep our registration and meal costs the same as they were last year. The lodging will be \$10 more per night but this should be largely offset by the tremendous decrease in gasoline price since this time last year.

Lodging is available at a reduced rate of \$109.00 for a King or \$119.00 for two Queens at the Y.O. Ranch Hotel & Conference Center, 2033 Sidney Baker, Kerrville, Texas 78028. The cut-off for these rates is March 30, 2016. To register, call (830) 257-4440 or go to; <https://bookings.ihotelier.com/bookings.jsp?groupID=1565985&hotelID=12007>. Be sure to ask for “*Military Order of Stars and Bars*” rate. We have 30 rooms set aside at the above rates through March 30th. After that date, in order to prevent having to pay for unused rooms, all unreserved rooms will be released and the reduced MOS&B rates will no longer apply.

The Friday agenda is somewhat different than in the past. At most conventions, social night is usually the last night of the convention and everyone checks out first thing the next morning. We are going to try to reverse that at this convention. We usually have limited time to socialize at our annual meetings since we traditionally end early on Saturday afternoon immediately following the luncheon and everyone leaves for home. In an attempt to increase the opportunities to socialize and get to know our brothers and sisters a little better, we are going to try to emphasize the Friday night event. Rather than finger food, we will have a full blown Prime Rib Dinner Buffet. The menu includes; Prime Rib, Fried Seafood, Pineapple Chiller, Trout, Vegetables, Soup and Salad Bar, Dessert Bar, Bread and Condiments, Tea and Coffee and a Cash Bar. Afterwards, we can adjourn to the spacious lobby to sit and talk or the adjacent lounge where they have a live country western band and a dance floor.

Our luncheon on Saturday will consist of a huge Fajita and Mexican Buffet. We will go just outside the meeting room to get our food and return to meeting room to eat.

Our guest speaker for Saturday’s Luncheon will be Cindy Harriman, Executive Director of the Texas Civil Museum in Fort Worth, Texas. She is an extremely accomplished speaker and will present a program on Civil War medicine.

Saturday afternoon will be on your own. There are a number of interesting sites to visit and we will provide you information on some of them when you register. The Annual Meeting should conclude between 1:30 and 2:00 PM Saturday.

If you have questions or need additional information please contact Jack Dyess, Texas Society Commander, 817-946-2099, jplsail@earthlink.net.



The Military Order of Stars & Bars
2016 Texas Society Annual Meeting
April 29-30, 2016 Kerrville, Texas



Full Name _____

Guest(s): _____
 (Please list member and guest names as you wish them to appear on names tags)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

MOS&B Chapter and Number: _____

Telephone number: _____ Email address: _____

Registration Fee (MOS&B members only) _____ @ \$25 each = \$ _____

Late Registration Fee (After April 10, 2016) _____ @ \$30 each = \$ _____

Commander's Reception & Dinner
 Friday, April 29th _____ @ \$20 each = \$ _____
 Reception 5:30 to 6:30 PM Dinner 6:30 to 8:00

Luncheon-Saturday, April 30th _____ @ \$25 each = \$ _____

[NOTE: Meal reservations cannot be guaranteed after April 15, 2016]

Total Enclosed: _____ \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Texas Society, MOS&B

Mail registrations and checks to: Jack Dyess
3912 Wisteria Lane
Haltom City, TX 76137

Accommodations: Y.O. Ranch Hotel & Conference Center,
 2033 Sidney Baker, Kerrville, Texas 78028
 King Bed = \$109* or Two Queen Beds = \$119*
*** Cut off for these rates is March 30, 2016**

Register at <https://bookings.ihotelier.com/bookings.jsp?groupID=1565985&hotelID=12007> or call
 (830) 257-4440 and ask for "Military Order of Stars and Bars" rate.