

The Texas Army

The State of Texas Official 1836 Ceremonial and Reenactment Group

Membership Application

Membership is open to all interested adult males at least 16 years of age. The original Texas Army was made up of male volunteers. Although women and children played a vital role in the settlement of Texas and the winning of Texas independence, they were not members of the Army and Ranging Companies. Women and children are welcome in camp and in their appropriate support roll; they provide a wider educational opportunity to the public. Both Hispanic Americans (Tejano) and Afro-Americans (freemen and slaves) did participate in the Army.

Unlike the Army of early Texas, all members of the Texas Army may obtain the rank of Colonel upon completion of certain requirements. Today, the Texas Army is composed of two Generals, Colonels, and Enlisted men. Today's Texas Army is a sanctioned ceremonial group of the State of Texas, reactivated from the original 1836 Texas Army by Gov. Preston Smith in 1969. Each Colonel's commission is signed by the Governor of the State of Texas. A background check will be performed prior to becoming a Texas Army Member. No felony arrest convictions permitted for application.

The Texas Army is composed of men from all walks of life including, active and retired Military, Doctors, Clergymen, Salesmen, Law Enforcement, Teachers, Engineers, and Businessmen. We're a diverse group, much as our predecessors were, with a common goal to preserve Texas History.

Requirements

1. The applicant must become knowledgeable in the clothing, weapons, and life skills of the period (1835-1836). The applicant must wear appropriate clothing, and his weapons must be appropriate for the period (1835-1836) with no plastic hardware and in good working order. Safety is of the highest importance. Before each event an inspection will be made.
2. Applicant must attend at least 3 events for evaluation, before progressing to a minimum of 5 events, which are necessary for advancement from Enlisted to Officer.
3. Advancement-Marksmanship Qualification. Applicant for Officer must be proficient with his black powder rifle or musket. Beside safety awareness and practice, an applicant must show his ability to use his muzzle loading weapon, as our forefathers did, by shooting 5 pure round lead balls in succession onto a paper plate target at 50 yards, standing and unsupported. At least two Colonels of the Texas Army must witness the Qualification.
4. Upon successful completion of the above requirements, Applicant will present a petition (in essay form) giving reasons why he desires to join the Texas Army. Knowledge of Texas History is a must. Also included with the essay should be a one-time \$100.00 donation to the Texas Army "War Chest" for Texas Army events.
5. Fill out the application below and either mail or e-mail Col. Tony Tristan (see address below). After the application is received and approved, you will receive call-outs (notice of Texas Army events), newsletters and other important Texas Army information.

NOTE: Applicants will need to be sponsored by a Texas Army Officer.

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Application

Prefix First Name Middle Name Last Name Suffix

Address Apt/Suite Number

City State ZIP Code

Home Phone Mobile Phone Work Phone Extension

E-mail Spouse's Name (optional)

Driver's License Number (including State) Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY) Texas Army Sponsor/Mentor (if any)

List any Black Powder experience you have.

List any skills or crafts from the period you can demonstrate.

List any Living History or Historical affiliations you have.

List any Fraternal Organizations affiliations you have.

Signature Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

Submission

Complete the above form and send it to Colonel Tony Tristan, Texas Army Registrar, at...

Postal Mail
16902 Enchanted Circle W
Sugar Land, TX 77498

Email
applications@texasarmy.org

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Recommendations

Reading

If you would like to start learning about what gear, weapons, skills and crafts you can use, visit the following online resources:

The Texas Army
Official Web Site
<http://www.texasarmy.org>

Early History of Texas
Living History Information
<http://www.earlytexashistory.com>

Texian Legacy Association
<http://www.texianlegacy.com>

Clothing

For period sewing patterns, consider the following resources:

Dixie Gun Works
<http://www.dixiegunworks.com/>

Jo-ann Fabric and Craft Stores
<http://www.joann.com/>
(with retail stores across the nation)

James Townsends and Sons
<http://www.jas-townsends.com>

Ready-made clothing, dresses, and Rendezvous clothing/accessories can also be found at **Crazy Crow Trading Post** (<http://crazycrow.com>). Recommended clothing includes:

- 18th Century Camp Work Shirts - Texian Palm Leaf Hat - Felt hat Blanks - Pants

Weaponry

Weapons must be 1836 or prior design, Muskets or Rifles (flintlock preferred), or full stock percussion. Consider the following resources for your weaponry needs:

Cabela's
<http://www.cabelas.com/>
(retail stores in select locations)

Davide Pedersoli & C
<http://http://www.davide-pedersoli.com/>
(high-quality replicas)

Dixie Gun Works
<http://www.dixiegunworks.com/>

Middlesex Village Trading Companie

<http://www.middlesexvillagetrading.com/>