G Company is one of the premier living history organizations in the country. It is an integral part of the Texas Military Forces Museum at Camp Mabry in Austin, Texas, and the official living history detachment of the Texas Military Forces. The men and women of G Company seek to honor America’s veterans while educating themselves and the general public regarding the uniforms, equipment, drill and day-to-day realities of life of the common infantryman from the Civil War through Vietnam.

What does G Company do?

G Company is the official living history detachment of the Texas National Guard and operates under the auspices of the Texas Military Forces Museum. All members of the unit are registered volunteers of the museum, located at Camp Mabry in Austin, Texas. The detachment supports the museum and the Texas Military Forces through programs, events and ceremonies designed to honor our nation’s veterans, support our men and women in uniform today, link the troops of the Texas Army and Air National Guard to their heritage while fostering their sense of esprit d’corps and educate the public on the grand history of the armed forces of the United States and Texas Military Forces.

Members of the unit come from all walks of life. Some are veterans, others members of the current armed forces, some students, but all of them are Americans who love military history, want to learn more about it and share their knowledge with each other and the public.

Most G Company events take place in Texas and are educational or ceremonial in nature. However, we also participate in various non-public “tactical” events and large-scale Civil War battle reenactments around the country. Permanent events on our schedule include the Close Assault 1944 living history program held at Camp Mabry on Memorial Day weekend and the weekend closest to, but before, Veterans Day each year, as well as the Muster Day event (including living history encampments from 1823 through Vietnam and a large WWII battle reenactment) which takes place at Camp Mabry the third weekend of April each year. Another standard event for us occurs in early May when we take part in the Central Texas Air Show in Temple, usually by doing a Vietnam War impression.

How do I get started?

It is easy to get into living history. We can help you find the right gear — our members have uniforms, weapons and equipment to loan while you test the waters. When you are ready to buy your own gear, we can help you get what you need from the best vendors at the best prices. There are no dues to be a member of G Company, although membership in the Texas Military Forces Historical Foundation is encouraged. All potential members are assigned a sponsor — a veteran of the unit who will help you buy or borrow what you need, meet the men and women in the unit, get to events, etc. After attending two maximum-effort G Company events, a recruit is eligible to be voted into full membership. The Texas National Guard will require you to pass a simple criminal background check. If you think G Company is for you, contact us to learn more.

For more information about G Company, contact Jeff Hunt, commander of the Texas Military Forces Living History Detachment and the director of the Texas Military Forces Museum, or speak to one of the G Company members.

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Visit the museum website: www.texasmilitaryforcesmuseum.org
Authenticity standards, both physical and mental, are very high. Equipment, uniforms, tentage, weapons, etc., must be 100% authentic or accurate reproductions. Facial hair and haircuts must conform to U.S. military standards of the period being reenacted. We practice the art of total immersion into a time period — this includes period drill, period tactics, sleeping in pup tents, on the ground without shelters or in foxholes we have dug ourselves, period paperwork and military discipline. The unit has an outstanding reputation as a fine reenacting unit and living history organization. This reputation has been earned by men and women willing to live, move and fight like the soldiers who served in the time periods we interpret — no matter how hot, cold, wet or dry the weather, or how hard the work or uncomfortable the living conditions. Our feeling is that if those who endured these trials for real, day in and day out for weeks or months on end, could cope with them, we ought to be able to endure them for a few days.

Safety is a primary concern, as is unit morale and cohesion. Those who cannot follow orders or obey instructions or who are not willing to be part of a functioning military organization will probably not enjoy being a part of G Company. All rank is appointed on a merit basis, and only rank actually needed for the unit to fulfill its mission is utilized. Most unit members will be privates. Camaraderie is a vital element of our unit, as it is in real military organizations, and although we work hard at what we do, we also believe in having a good time and enjoying the fellowship of our fellow living historians. There are no height, weight or age requirements (except that you must be at least 16 to carry a weapon). Men and women of all races are welcome as members. The most important asset is the proper attitude and a desire to “do it right.”

G Company is a non-political organization and it neither subscribes to, nor supports, any political group or agenda. Our primary and unifying interest is to better understand the history of our nation, our armed forces and Texas by an intensely interactive study of the past, and to use that knowledge to educate the public, honor our veterans and support the Texas Military Forces, the Armed Forces of the United States and the Texas Military Forces Museum.