

## SOUTHEAST NEW MEXICO FAIR PARADE

**Parade Organization and March Order:** Parade is organized into

**Parade Section 1: Lead Theme Marching Unit and Grand Marshall:**

**Theme: Defending Our Freedoms – WWI to Today:** Lead Banner carried by NMMI Cadets in period Military Uniforms representing WWI and other major conflicts.

**Grand Marshall:** Unknown

**Parade Section II: New Mexico Military Institute:** NMMI Corps of Cadets and Regimental Band. WWI music, including “Over There,” “You’re A Grand Old Flag,” “Yankee Doodle Boy,” et. al.

**Parade Section III: Honoring A Battery, 146<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery and Lieutenant Colonel Charles M. de Bremond, DSM:** (Led by appropriate banner). Celebrates the history of Battery A, First N.M. Field Artillery from Roswell arrived at Columbus on 12 May. Battery A members also included 14 NMMI Cadets. Battery A was the first National Guard Field Artillery unit on the border. Later, Battery A was ordered to Ft. Bliss where it received valuable training that enabled it to become one of the best known American Expeditionary Force units of World War I.

New Mexico's renowned military leader Charles M. de Bremond [1863-1919] was a Swiss immigrant to Roswell, New Mexico, was a farmer and rancher and commander of the New Mexico National Guard's Battery A. The unit served on the border during the Mexican Revolution (1916) and in France during World War I (1917-1918). Upon Lt. Col. de Bremond's death in December 1919, succumbing to the effects of poison gas inhaled during the battle of the Marne in July 1918, friends attempted to have de Bremond's service recognized with the Distinguished Service Medal which was awarded posthumously.

During WWI, "A" Battery of the First Artillery, NMNG was assigned to 146th Field Artillery Regiment, 66th Artillery Brigade, 41st Infantry Division. Sent to the front in July 1918 to help stop a German drive that had crossed the Marne River within 50 miles of Paris, France, the battery remained on the firing line at Chateau Thierry, St. Mihiel, and in the Argonne with their French made mobile 155-mm guns until the Armistice, 11 November 1918. New Mexico's Battery A, 146th Field Artillery was cited by a letter from General Pershing for destroying the bridge at Chateau-Thierry, which served as the German's main line of communication. Its destruction materially contributed to the failure of the last great German offensive of the war. At the end of hostilities, the four guns of the battery had fired in excess of 14,000 rounds each. That was more rounds fired in combat than all the other American heavy mobile field artillery combined. Ultimately, the men of the battery earned six battle stars for their Victory Medals.

**Note:** Contact the NMARNG for support with period weapons and equipment appropriate for parade manned by members of the NMARNG from Roswell's de Bremond Training Facility. Numerous historical sources online can provide interesting research materials.

**Parade Section IV: Honoring Our Doughboys:** Lead banner followed by float with Guard members in period uniforms with weapons/equipment unique to the “Doughboy.” It's unknown exactly how U.S. service members (US Army and US Marines) in World War I (1914-18) came to be dubbed doughboys—the term most typically was used to refer to troops deployed to Europe as part of the American Expeditionary Forces—but there are a variety of theories about the origins of the nickname. According to one explanation, the term dates back to the Mexican War of 1846-48, when American

infantrymen made long treks over dusty terrain, giving them the appearance of being covered in flour, or dough. As a variation of this account goes, the men were coated in the dust of adobe soil and as a result were called “adobes,” which morphed into “dobies” and, eventually, “doughboys.” Among other theories, according to “War Slang” by Paul Dickson the American journalist and lexicographer H.L. Mencken claimed the nickname could be traced to Continental Army soldiers who kept the piping on their uniforms white through the application of clay. When the troops got rained on the clay on their uniforms turned into “doughy blobs,” supposedly leading to the doughboy moniker.

The term Doughboy became synonymous with and easily identifiable by the uniform of a WW1 soldier: wool tunic, wool breeches, puttees or “leg wraps” worn above the service shoes, and the flat-brimmed campaign hat and distinctive “Brodie’ helmet, a shallow wide-brimmed body that was stamped out by machine (These items and more can be purchased online still today).

**Note:** Contact de Bremond Training Facility Roswell, NM National Guard. NMMI can provide WWI Motorcycle Machine Gun developed at NMMI, used in the Punitive Expedition to Mexico and during WWI. Numerous historical sources online can provide information as well as the Historical Society. Possibility exists to arrange for a mounted cavalry unit to represent the cavalry units at Ft. Stanton and in WWI.

**Parade Section V: Celebrating Our Southeast NM Heroes:** Lead banner followed by floats hosting Veterans of WWI, including Battan an Code Talkers, if any), Korean War (if any), Vietnam, Afghanistan, Iraq, Global War On Terrorism.

**Note:** Contact VFW and American Legion Posts, RDR for assistance in publicity. Contact NMARNG for representation by current members and equipment. Contact Patriot Guard for participation bearing Service, NM, US and POW flags.

**Parade Section VI: Four Freedoms –fear, want, worship, speech.** Lead banner of an array of floats and marchers from civic organizations, schools, businesses, and fair presenters, etc., promoting the people’s support and defense of the Constitutions’ four freedoms and educating the public in that responsibility of citizenship.

**Note:** Contact past participants (individuals, businesses, civic organs, religious organs, schools, etc., and new possibilities, for support.

**Parade Section VII: We Have Your Back – New Mexico National Guard and First Responders.** Lead banner for current NM Army National Guard members and equipment, and a representative group of First Responders from Roswell/ Southeast NM.

**Note:** Contact NMARNG representatives, past participants for support.