





Rate: \$109 - ask for special OIW group rate - includes hot breakfast. Rate applies 3 days prior and 3 days after assembly

Reservations must be made by August 25, 2018 - after 8/25 rates may go up or space may not be available.





## Order of the Indian Wars 39th Annual Assembly Amarillo, Texas - September 27 - 30, 2018

## The Plains on Fire - The Red River War

Nelson Miles characterized the Red River War as "not only comprehensive, but . . . the most successful of any Indian campaign in this country since its settlement by the whites." From a military point of view, the campaign against the Indians was masterfully planned and executed. With the end of the war, the vast plains, once the domain of Comanche, Kiowa, and Cheyenne, was opened to whites. Ranchers, farmers, railroads and towns sprang up over the entire region. The Red River War brought an end to the once powerful plains Indians, yet it is one of the least studied of all the Indian wars campains.

We'll meet in Amarillo to study this almost forgotten war. With Neil Mangum as our guide, we'll visit Kit Carson's greatest Indian fight and the site of George Armstrong Custer's greatest Indian Wars victory. With the single exception of George Crook the most recognized names of Indian Wars - Custer, Carson, Miles and Mackenzie - all make their appearance. The legendary Bat Masterson, Billy Dixon and Amos Chapman add to the story.

The Kit Carson fight at the First Battle of Adobe Walls in 1864 will be the earliest fight site we visit. This was an engagement between Carson's 375 troops and an estimated 2000—3000 Kiowa, Comanche and Southern Cheyenne warriors. The site of the conflict is on a private ranch, not open to the public. This may well be your only chance to visit the First Battle of Adobe Walls - Kit's last fight.

Custer's victory at the Washita followed in 1868. Custer showed, much as Carson, great skill at extricating his command under great pressure. His victory would set a pattern for Indian War tactics - catch the Indians in their village, capture non-combatants, destroy the village and kill the horses. This proved to be a viable strategy, right up to Little Big Horn.We'll tour the battlefield, visit the NPS museum and have lunch in Cheyenne, Oklahoma.

Widely considered the opening shots of the Red River War, the 1874 Second Battle of Adobe Walls will be one of our stops. After an on-site lecture, we will head back to Borger, Texas to visit the Hutchinson County Museum. Here are some great exhibits, as well as models of the Adobe Walls II site.

The Red River War is possibly the largest Indian wars' campaign in the history of the U.S. Involving over three thousand soldiers and scouts, the campaign utilised five converging columns to maintain a continuous offensive pressure until a decisive defeat was inflicted on the Indians.

The set piece of the Red River War is Palo Duro Canyon, the second largest canyon in this country. You will be captivated by its beauty and fascinated by its history. Both Miles and Mackenzie fought engagements in the canyon. We will see the visitor's center, view the canyon from the rim and enter it.

Near this incredible trick of nature, is the largest and the oldest history museum in Texas, the Panhandle Plains Museum. You know that with these credentials, it has to be spectacular, it is.

Billy Dixon's legendary shot at the second battle of Adobe Walls wasn't his only connection with the Red River War. Almost as miraculous was his performance at the Buffalo Wallow Fight. In this engagement, six men made a stand against over 100 Indian warriors from the pitiful shelter of a small, ten-foot circference buffalo wallow. Five of them survived and all six were awarded the Medal of Honor, the only battle in our history in which all participants received such an honor.

All of this plus a dinner at one of the most famous of all Texas institutions, The Big Texan Steak House, awaits you, September 27-30, 2018 at our annual assembly, *The Plains on Fire - The Red River War.* 

For hotel and tour information go to: www.indianwars.com