

# Trail Marker

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As observed by Ralph Waldo Emerson, "December is the time for remembering the past and reaching toward the future." This season of the year presents an opportunity to reflect on our recent or distant past and prepare for what lies ahead. It is not necessary to wait until year-end to review past events—we are free to reflect on them at any time.

I recall an event from my personal experience that, despite initial challenges, ultimately resulted in positive feelings. 30 years ago in October, my young wife (age 42) had suddenly passed away from complications of surgery. I was suddenly left with 6 children (ages 6 to 19) to take care of on my own. Christmas was going to be hard that year. During the weeks leading up to Christmas Day, I diligently prepared for the occasion. Balancing work, National Guard weekends, and single fatherhood made it tough to find time for Christmas shopping. I kept it as simple as I could. But then, something miraculous occurred. On Christmas Eve, my children and I found an unexpected, but wonderful, surprise on our front porch. The entire porch was covered with Christmas gifts, all beautifully wrapped and ready to be put under our Christmas tree. It so happened that a generous and kind family, residing outside our neighborhood and previously unknown to me, graciously supplied the majority of our

Christmas needs that year (I later learned one of their children was in the same elementary school class as my six-year-old).

Although it was a challenging period of time for me, that Christmas 30 years ago has become a positive memory in retrospect. The meaning of Christmas for me strengthened that year and stuck with me ever since. This memory reinforces the presence of many compassionate and kind individuals around us. Since that time, prioritizing service and kindness towards others has been of particular importance for me as I try to be of service to others. As I share my experience of 30 years ago with you, I hope it serves as inspiration for you as you contemplate your own life and the people around you.

Throughout my years being associated with the SUP, I have observed the dedication and goodwill exhibited by all of you. During this month of December, I encourage you to continue that dedication and goodwill in serving others. Take time to reflect on your positive personal memories and when appropriate share those memories with family, fellow SUP members, and the broader community. Together, we can continue to contribute to our shared legacy through each significant event in our lives. Have a very Merry Christmas, and may the principles of faith, family, loyalty, courage, and other pioneer values continue to burn brightly in your hearts!

Wally

Wally Breitenstein Sr. | 2026 National SUP President

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# PIONEER STORIES

It was Christmas Eve in 1868. The children were tucked in bed and Sarah Chantry Rawson sat by the tiny stove in the little house she called home and mulled over the events of her life and especially the six months just passed. She thought of when she and John Rawson were sweethearts back in England, their marriage, and their plans for the future.

John was tall with dark wavy hair and blue eyes. Their love for each other increased as their family of ten children came to them. They planned and worked together to support their large family. As the children became old enough they went to work to help with the home expenses.

The family had always been devout Christians, and when they heard the gospel of Jesus Christ preached, they opened their home to the Mormon elders for holding meetings. Then in 1851, they became members of that faith and planned to gather in Zion. Their older son Francis was married and he and his wife and his sister, Jane, were to leave their home in England and go with the Saints to Utah.

At this time, John, Sarah's devoted husband, took ill and passed away. This was a trial almost greater than Sarah could bear – losing John's counsel, his help with the family, the needed income, his companionship. And how they would miss him playing his bass violin in their home.

Brokenhearted and still in shock, Sarah was advised to immigrate to Utah with her four youngest children, taking the place of her son, his wife, and his sister. Torn between her desire to gather with the Saints and her fear of leaving her home and family. Sarah faced a hard decision. But with faith in her religion she decided to



*Sarah*



*Early fireplace oven used by the Saints*

follow the council of those in authority. In a daze she began to prepare for the long journey.

Leaving six of her ten children and her aged mother-in-law, who lived with them, she and her four younger children, aged ten years to nine months, left her home just one month from the day John passed away. After weeks on the ocean, traveling steerage under crowded, unpleasant conditions, they arrived in America. Then they took the train to the railroad terminus. Caring for the tired children not used to being confined so closely was a full-time job for a weary mother. Traveling by covered wagon, they finally arrived in Salt Lake City in September 1868.

Sarah, with her little family, was sent on to a town north, and though she did not know anyone, still there were good people to help. A very kind gentleman found her a little house and provided her with a small rusty stove, which she scoured and cleaned. When it was set up, she blackened it with the soot from the lids and polished it with burlap. By winter, she and her children had settled in their new home.

Although the home was scantily furnished, Sarah was fairly comfortable. With regaining strength, she worked, and by her thrift and planning, with some aid from kind neighbors, she was able to prepare for the

winter ahead. She knew nothing of its severity, yet her courage to face the future had not diminished.

Letters from her dear ones whom she had left behind helped to lessen the pangs of separation, and her hope of them all joining her in the near future was pleasant to anticipate.

It must be getting late, Sarah thought, so she looked at the tiny clock she had brought with her from her home, and with the one burning candle which threw a flickering dim light in the room, took a good-night look at her sleeping darlings. Samuel was a sturdy, rosy lad of ten years; Hannah, a rather frail girl of six with heavy braids of light brown hair; Thomas, three years old, still a baby; and Harry, a year-old, just toddling about and lisping a few words. Her heart was filled with love for them, and she wondered how he could rear them, as she and John had planned, without him.

She next looked at the row of stockings hung on the wall and turned again to look at the sleeping faces, hoping they would be happy with the little gifts she had lovingly prepared for them.

She set the candle down and knelt by her bed and thanked her Heavenly Father for His blessings that she at last was with His people in Zion, in a land of freedom. She prayed for wisdom and strength for the future.

Glancing around the room at her sleeping little ones, she blew out the candle and sought her bed to rest and prepare for her first Christmas in Zion.

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*Pioneer Magazine Winter 2001, pages 8-9.*

*Photo of Sarah Chantry, Family Search.org*

# Monument Trek



## C. Wilford C. Woodruff & Josephine C. Barbara C. Baumann

SUP #169 | HERITAGE SQUARE, 3000 W SANTA CLARA DRIVE, SANTA CLARA, UTAH

GPS: N37 07 59.8, W113 39 13.1 ELEVATION 2763 FEET (37.1331083, -113.6535639)

The Wilford Woodruff and Josephine Barbara Baumann Knight monument was erected by the Cotton Mission Chapter along with Marjorie K. and son, Charles L, Clayton in 2012. It memorializes the Knight family with an impressive and detailed plaque.

Wilford Woodruff Knight was born on November 22, 1883, in Santa Clara, Utah, as the seventh child of Samuel R. and Laura M. Leavitt Knight. Named by Apostle Wilford Woodruff, he became known as Will Knight and grew up in a gospel-centered home. He was known for his good humor and positive outlook.

Wilford was a talented and hardworking runner winning many races. His work ethic carried into adulthood. Beyond running, he enjoyed playing games with loved ones and had a knack for imitating sounds, especially trains. He was a talented dancer. While he was attending one of the community dances in 1909, he met Josephine Baumann, whom he courted throughout the following year and they were married June 22, 1910, in the St. George Temple. They had seven children: Marjorie, Elma, Lamar, Wilford Afton, Alfred, Clinton, and Samuel.

For the rest of the lengthy story with pictures on the plaque, you will have to visit the site.



### WILFORD WOODRUFF AND JOSEPHINE BARBARA BAUMANN KNIGHT

Wilford Woodruff Knight was born November 22, 1883, in Santa Clara, Utah, as the seventh child of Samuel R. and Laura M. Leavitt Knight. He was affectionately known by his friends and neighbors as Will Knight. He was privileged to be blessed and given his name by an Apostle of the Church, Wilford Woodruff, on December 23, 1883. This apostle gave the baby his name instead of the one his parents had chosen. Wilford grew up in a home where the gospel was the melody of his life. He had a good sense of humor and enjoyed life.

Wilford had many talents: he was an exceptional runner and had an incredible work ethic. He worked throughout his youth to develop his running skills and became widely known for his ability. He could outrun almost anyone. Wilford competed in and won many races, earning numerous prizes and medals. Wilford's success as a runner was a direct result of his willingness to tirelessly labor in his pursuits, ever following the example set by his parents. His ability to work served him throughout his adult life. Though he loved to work and run, Will also loved to play games with his family and friends—games such as kick the can, run sheep run, ginola, and others. Wilford's sense of play was showcased when he would imitate different sounds. As part of this uncanny talent, Will would mimic the sound of a train whistling; it was hard to distinguish his sound from the real thing.

Wilford was a talented dancer. He sincerely desired to become an awesome dancer, and he did. While he was attending one of the community dances in 1909, he met Josephine Baumann, whom he courted throughout the following year. She accepted Wilford's proposal, and they were married June 22, 1910, in the St. George Temple. From this union seven children were born: Marjorie, Elma, Lamar, Wilford Afton, Alfred, Clinton, and Samuel (on his father's lap).

When Will's dad, Samuel R. Knight, passed away, Wilford assumed caring for his mother. He did his best to make sure she was well cared for until she died twelve years later on February 13, 1922.

Wilford was friendly; he always got along well with others, and he tried to help the needy and less fortunate whenever possible. He often gave away his belongings and went without so others could have more. He treated the local Indians with respect and dignity, offering to feed and water their horses and share of his substance whenever they passed through. Wilford shared everything he had with others. His compassion and kindness endeared him to everyone.

He lived his religion and through example passed his faith onto his family. Wilford dealt honestly with his fellow men. He paid his tithing faithfully (either by paying it or working it off), and he held family prayer every morning and evening. His philosophy was to never work on the Sabbath, unless there was a real need to do so.

Will was one of the first people in Santa Clara to own a Model T-Ford. He modified his car with boards and converted it to a truck. He was a good handy man who could fix or repair most anything. He was a self-taught auto mechanic and became highly sought after by others hoping he could repair their vehicles. He utilized this talent, and it became one of several things he did to make a living for his family.

Wilford made most of his living by farming and freighting. He had one of the largest orchards in Santa Clara and raised many varieties of fruit. Wilford donated much of his produce to the Church canneries, where it was packaged and distributed to help the needy. To provide food for his family in the winter, Will raised home-grown, sun-dried peaches for food like potatoes, onions, carrots, etc. To earn additional income, he raised chickens (he had a lot of them) in six coops that were 20 feet wide and 30 feet long. The chickens produced a lot of eggs, which the family sold to their neighbors and community members.

Will also raised pigs, had a dairy herd, and owned some of the finest horses in Santa Clara. He and his first trained family helped run game trails, hay, and cane. His sons were essential during the harvest season, as they helped their father turn the cane into molasses. Will traded work with others, plowing and harrowing their fields in exchange for help with molasses-making which was quite painstaking and very labor intensive.

Wilford farmed an area called the "Three Mile," located a short distance west of Santa Clara. He raised grain and hay there. Though Will prospered and found success as a farmer and tradesman, things were not always good or easy for him. He fell on rough times throughout the years. His fruit would freeze, leaving nothing for the harvest, or, on one occasion, whirlwinds whipped through the community and blew the roof off his chicken coops and carried away many of his chickens. Another time rains and flooding washed away the back side of Will's chicken coops. (He later replaced the missing walls with rock and called this problem "stones").

Ever entrepreneurial, Wilford provided forward to heat the Santa Clara schoolhouse during the winters. He also cut and sold cedar posts used for fence building to businesses and the local people.

Wilford served as the Winter Master for the community for years and made sure the people who owned winter homes used them during their appropriated times.

Will was a thin man with a hearty appetite. His warm personality contributed to many friendships. Everyone who knew him spoke highly of him. He was practical in every way. He loved to dine on simple fare such as bread and gravy or bread and milk. (which he had every night for supper). After having his bread and milk, he always said, "This will do me if we have an early breakfast."

Wilford named his family in the Jacob Hamblin home, originally owned by his wife's family; he acquired the Hamblin home through his marriage to Josephine. During the early 1940s, with all of his sons serving their Country during World War II, Will had difficulty maintaining the farm, so he purchased a tractor, which made it easier for him to manage the property.

Will had always been a powerful man. He would demonstrate his strength by competing against two horses fully yoked and hitched to a stump while he sat down on the other side of the stump with a yoke across his shoulders in order to pull back the stump once the horses began their movement. With his legs stretched out and his body heaving, he would wear the horses down over a period of time, never losing a single competition. Around 1943 Will's strength and endurance gave way as he developed a large girth that quickly sucked the life out of him. It sapped him of his strength, and he died shortly after his sons returned from the war (all except Alfred).

After suffering for five weeks with a serious illness brought on by the golden, Wilford died of cirrhosis of the liver on March 4, 1946, at the McCanger Hospital in St. George, Utah. He was 62 years old. Funeral services were held March 6, 1946, in the chapel in Santa Clara, Utah. Interment was the same day at the Santa Clara Cemetery. He hoped that his posterity would love and cherish the good of a man, as he did during his lifelong journey. This legacy lives on today.

Left to Right: Brothers: Samuel, Clinton, Alfred, Wilford Afton, and Lamar Knight

Right to Left: Brothers: Samuel, Clinton, Alfred, Wilford Afton, and Lamar Knight

Back Row Left to Right: Lamar, Clinton, Samuel, Front Row: Alfred and their mother, Josephine B. Knight (taken in 1946)

Back Row Left to Right: Lamar, Clinton, Samuel, Front Row: Alfred and their mother, Josephine B. Knight (taken in 1946)

Left to Right: Brothers: Samuel, Clinton, Alfred, Wilford Afton, and Lamar Knight

Right to Left: Brothers: Samuel, Clinton, Alfred, Wilford Afton, and Lamar Knight

Compounded by Orin D. Knight, grandson. Donated by Marjorie K. and son, Charles L. Clayton Site # 169, Cotton Mission Chapter, Sons of Utah Pioneers - June 2012

# TRAIL MARKER NEWS

Compiled by Roland Lee

If you would like to have your chapter news printed in the Trail Marker please do the following:

1. Write-up should be one-paragraph (Less than 250 words) in MS Word or send as the text of an email. NO pdf files.
2. Attach 1 quality jpeg photograph to your email
3. Email to: [rolandleefamily@gmail.com](mailto:rolandleefamily@gmail.com)
4. News must be received by the 25th of each month

**FOR UPCOMING SUP NATIONAL EVENTS, CLICK HERE**

## BRIGHAM YOUNG CHAPTER - Provo, Utah



*Handbell Choir*

Founded in 1993, the Utah Valley Handbell Choir is proud to be Utah's oldest community handbell ensemble. With over three decades of commitment to musical excellence, they serve as a vital cultural institution within the Utah Valley community. The ensemble consists of dedicated musicians from diverse

backgrounds, united by a profound appreciation for the art of handbell ringing. As an integral part of the Utah Valley community, the Utah Valley Handbell Choir is dedicated to promoting the art of handbell ringing and inspiring future generations of musicians and music lovers.

## CENTERVILLE CHAPTER - Centerville, Utah



*Joshua Randall*

Our November Centerville Utah Chapter meeting included a wonderful Thanksgiving feast prepared by our chapter president's family. We then held the swearing in of our chapter officers and board members conducted by our Area V.P. Bryant Davis. Our chapters' trek committee chair, Don Olsen, told us about a possible trek option for 2026 which would take us to the Topaz area. Our featured speaker for the evening was Joshua Randall who serves as Senior Counsel at the headquarters of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He oversees legal matters for the Church's artificial intelligence

(AI) initiatives and for information security. However, Josh's remarks for the evening were based on experiences he had from 2021 to 2025 when he lived in Russia and Germany. He served as the Area Legal Counsel for the Church's Eurasian Area, managing legal affairs across 17 countries. It was during that time that he led the Church's legal response to complex challenges arising from the conflict in Russia and Ukraine as the war expanded. While in Russia, he saw the beautiful areas in Moscow and explained how clean it was, and he felt very safe at the time. Eventually though as things worsened during the

*(Continued From the Previous Page)*

conflict, he was told he would need to get the missionaries out of Ukraine and Russia immediately. He then soon received a call to leave Russia himself, and then he got a second call from his boss telling him to catch the next flight out of Russia! He then made his residence in Frankfurt Germany and managed the legal work from there which included all legal work for that area of the world. There were 100 branches in Russia before he left, and his group handled the many financial needs for those branches. That task became more difficult, and those branches could no longer get funds to operate because access to their usual banks became limited. He worked hard to find sources that would handle the Church's funds, and he talked about

the stress during that time and the miracles and hard work it took to get funds to operate the Church's financial needs. Josh went on to tell us that Russia has 160 million people, but there are only 20,000 church members and only 5,000 are active. The Church's missionaries were all sent away except local Russian missionaries. He then explained how his office had to also work with Ukraine for their church needs, so it was an interesting working with both countries to fulfill his duties. He said the temple in Ukraine is still in operation and kept going by the locals, and they are so faithful even with the bombings and destruction going on all around them. He bore his testimony to the Lord's hand in all things, even in such troubled circumstances.

## COTTON MISSION CHAPTER - St George, Utah



*Glenn Rawson*

Well-known storyteller Glenn Rawson joined us at our November 18 dinner meeting for an interesting evening of enlightening tales. Our meeting began with a pioneer moment presented by Dantzell Allen, wife of chapter president Brad Allen. She spoke about pioneer George Deliverance Wilson.

After dinner, provided by the Golden Corral Restaurant, we enjoyed a series of inspiring stories from Glenn Rawson. He told about an elementary school teacher in his life named Mrs. Fell who inspired him greatly.

## EAGLE ROCK CHAPTER - Idaho Falls, Idaho



*Nauvoo Oxen*

This month our meeting was well attended. We held elections for the 2026 year, heard a brief history of Fred Keefer, and from our Guest Speaker, sculptor Allen Haroldsen. Fred Keefer was something of a colorful, if not eccentric, mountain man who helped create and shape the new community of Eagle Rock later known as Idaho Falls. He built and lived in his cabin on a 2-acre island in the middle of the Snake River rowing to and from shore each day. He later became Sheriff and stayed on the job for over 20 years. It is said that he was put in as Sheriff to keep his twin brother, Frank, in line and out of trouble. Allen Haroldsen was born and raised on a farm in eastern Idaho, attended BYU earning a BA, and served in the England North

Mission. Among his many accomplishments as an artist and sculptor, he worked for the Idaho National Laboratory as a graphic artist, entered and won the 1988 National Snow Sculptor competition, was a sculptor for the Nauvoo Temple, and for the War Memorial of the Pacific in Honolulu. He described briefly, his experiences of sculpting some of the oxen and sunstones on the Nauvoo Temple. He took us from obtaining the raw blocks of stone to finishing the piece. Allen brought with him and displayed two pieces he recently made, some of the tools he uses, and the special gloves he wears to minimize the damage to his hands from the tool vibrations.

## HURRICANE CHAPTER - Hurricane, Utah



*Hurricane Chapter*

**October's Activity:** It was a lot of fun gathering at the Old South Ward Building (Red Brick) to have a marvelous pot-luck meal, mingle and visit with friends, and listen to the stories and history of our wonderful city. Jim Lemmon told of visits by general authorities and some of the funny things that happened to them during their visits to Hurricane at stake conference times. He reminisced about the old church peach orchard, and the cannery on 3rd West and 1st East that is now the Senior Citizen Center. It was nostalgic to return through stories to those wonderful days working at the cannery and the good and bad times we had. Thank you, Jim, for bringing those memories back.

**November's Activity:** This dinner will be one week earlier in the month because of Thanksgiving. The 19th will be the day, and dinner will again be potluck at the Red Brick Church at 6:30 pm. It will be a Modern-day Pioneer Presentation.

**December's Activity:** Our dinner will be held on the 3rd of December in the Colonial Chapel at 658 W 1500 South, Hurricane. It will begin at 6:00 p.m., a half hour earlier than we normally meet. The dinner will be presented by the Golden Corral and will be \$30 a plate. It's a fundraiser for scholarships. Also, your \$20 chapter dues for 2026 should be paid at the same time. Our entertainment will be by Lyndy Butler. These Christmas dinners have always been amazing. We look forward to seeing you there.

## JORDAN RIVER TEMPLE CHAPTER - South Jordan, Utah



*Dee Jay Bawden*

Dee Jay Bawden, artist and sculptor, along with his wife Deanna, left us with one of the most inspiring presentations at our recent November meeting. He shared with us his personal testimony of the inspiration he has received with his artistic endeavors from certain members of the Godhead. He also brought some of the works he has done, including the bust of the prophet, Joseph Smith. One of the most sacred impressions felt during his presentation was the inspiration and sense of gratitude he must have in that his artistic works given to the world will be present for all to enjoy for all eternity here on earth. These creations most likely will never go away or be lost. That has got to be a wonderful satisfaction to him in the time-

consuming labor of love for all his artistic creations. There are those SUP members making up the general SUP membership who have also contributed works of art and works of science that will benefit generations to come. For example, those who have written a book or a poem. Those who have painted a picture. And, how about those who have generously researched and published genealogical information? And, how about those who have finished, or at least started, writing their personal history? Thank you, Dee Jay, for sharing your personal and Spiritual testimony of the Spiritual assistance you receive in the creations you present. Individuals sacred to all of us are with you in your artistic works.

## MAPLE MOUNTAIN CHAPTER - Maple Mountain / Spanish Fork



*John Rockwell*

On Thursday, November 20th we had the privilege of hearing from John Rockwell the great-great grandson of Orrin Porter Rockwell. John is a lifelong educator and storyteller specializing in U.S. and Western history. He taught in Duchesne and Taylorsville, Utah, and received the National Honor Society's Distinguished Faculty Award in 2008. His passion

for history extends beyond the classroom—he has served on the Lehi City Historical Preservation Commission and worked extensively on historic restoration projects in Lehi, Utah. A descendant of Orrin Porter Rockwell, he co-authored *Stories from the Life of Porter Rockwell* with Jerry Borrowman.

## MESA ARIZONA CHAPTER - Mesa, Arizona



*Bruce Redford*

The Mesa chapter held its 2nd Thursday of the month potluck and presentation on November 13th. We were honored by a visit from Brigham Young himself! Actually, it was Bruce Redford, a local Brigham Young impersonator who really paid

us a visit. He shared some amazing history and early Church insights to a packed house. Word got out about President Young's visit, so we had a few gate crashers. An excellent evening of food, patriotism and history for all.

## MORGAN PIONEER CHAPTER - Morgan, Utah



*Craig Fisher*

On Monday, October 17th, the Morgan Chapter of the Utah Sons of the Pioneers gathered for their monthly luncheon. The delicious meal was once again provided by Larry's Spring Chicken Inn. The presentation for the lunch was by President Craig Fisher, a Morgan resident. Craig has served in many Church leadership positions, most recently, serving with his wife as Mission Leaders of the Utah, Salt Lake City Temple Square Mission, completing that service in July of 2020. Elder Fisher is a former member of the 5th Quorum of the Seventy and former President of the Montana Billings Mission. He has served in Morgan as a Bishop, High Councilor, Ward and Stake Young

Men President and Institute Instructor at WSU. He is currently a sealer at the Ogden Utah Temple. He and his wife also served as Area directors for the Youth Correction facilities for the Church in Northern Utah. He studied at the University of Phoenix and was the founder and CEO of Don Julio Foods. President Fisher shared some of his more spiritual experiences from his church service and how those experiences have changed his life. We are grateful for the years he and his wife have spent in service to others, especially missionaries and young adults whose lives he has been able to touch and change.

## MOUNTAIN VALLEY CHAPTER - Heber City, Utah



*Jay H. Buckley*

On November 13, 2025, the Mountain Valley Chapter held their monthly Speaker's Forum. Dr. Jay Buckley, Associate Professor of History and Director of the BYU Charles Redd Center for Western Studies. The title of Dr. Buckley's presentation was: "A History of the Rocky Mountain Rendezvous Era, 1825-1840." Information about the lives and activities of famous mountain men, trappers and native

Americans was presented. The annual Rendezvous was organized by fur-trading companies at various locations in the Rocky Mountains to exchange equipment and supplies for fur pelts. The Rendezvous became great gathering places for games, contests and social engagement. They were interesting events in western history.

## OGDEN PIONEER CHAPTER - Ogden, Utah



*Sherrie Poll*

In November, Farrell and Sherrie Poll shared insights and experiences from recent tours by the Tabernacle Choir to Manilla, Philippines, Lima, Peru, Buenos Aires, Argentina, and Sao Paulo, Brazil.

## PORTER ROCKWELL CHAPTER - Salt Lake City South, Utah



*National Headquarters*

National headquarters gives a thank you to the Porter Rockwell chapter for cleaning the National Headquarters and grounds for their annual Clean Up Day of Service.

## SALT LAKE PIONEER CHAPTER - Downtown Salt Lake City, Utah



*Madrigals*

**When:** December 10, 11:45AM

**Location:** DUP Salt Lake Museum  
300 N Main Street, SLC

**Cost:** \$25 Per Person

**Entertainment:** TAYLORSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL MADRIGALS

The Taylorsville High School Madrigals are the school's advanced choral group and will be performing a wide range of Christmas songs.

## SETTLEMENT CANYON CHAPTER - Tooele, Utah



*Jesse Knight*

Boyd Knight gave the presentation at our monthly meeting about Uncle Jesse Knight. Jesse Knight was born in 1845 near Nauvoo, Illinois, the son of Newel and Lydia G. Knight, early converts to the Mormon faith. In 1850, with his widowed mother, Jesse traveled by wagon across the plains to Salt Lake City where the family remained until 1858 when orders came to move south ahead of the Utah Expedition. Jesse spent the rest of his childhood and his teen years in Provo, Utah, where he lived with his mother and later with an older brother. He worked as a teamster in most of the jobs he had and grew to young manhood in the environment of the logging camp, mining camp, and

cattle town, with occasional Mormon connections. In 1869 he married Amanda McEwan and to this union were born five children, two sons and three daughters, with the first and the last children--daughters, being born in Provo and the rest on the Knight ranch in Payson, Utah. For many years Jesse Knight ranched and farmed in Payson, often herding sheep or cattle in the mountainous area of the Tintic, Utah, mining region. He became enamored of the idea to find great wealth himself and shortly before 1890 he found a mine, the June-Bug, which he almost immediately sold.

## TEMPLE FORK CHAPTER - Logan, Utah



*Dr. Kade Erickson*

In November our monthly meeting was held at the Logan County Club. Following an excellent meal all US Military Veterans present were recognized. We heard a short story of William Bradford and the Mayflower and the first Thanksgiving. Our speaker was Dr. Kade Erickson who is a

physical therapist. He gave a short family history then spoke to us about senior health and fitness. He answered everyone's questions. This was a great night and will benefit all who attended. We want to wish all our SUP a Very Merry Christmas.

## TEMPLE QUARRY CHAPTER - Salt Lake City, Utah



*Mathew Cowley*

For our November dinner meeting, the Temple Quarry Chapter enjoyed a presentation about the life of Matthew Cowley. His life story was shared by Charlie Rudd. President Rudd served as a bishop and a stake president in Utah, and a mission president in New Zealand. He is the son of Glen Rudd, who was instrumental in setting up the church welfare program. President and sister Rudd also served with the New Zealand MTC. Because of Mathew Cowley's great faith in the healing power of the priesthood, the Lord provided many miracles of healing through him. One day he gave health blessings to 76 people, many of whom, he noted, got in line as early as 5:00 a.m. Elder Cowley recorded in his journal, "And they are made

well, such is their faith, . . . It is not my faith. I just have faith in their faith." As Elder Cowley performed these blessings, he noticed a man who stood beside a tree watching but never got in line. After a while, Elder Cowley went and spoke to him and asked what his health problem was. The man said nothing was wrong; he was just standing there wishing he were sick so he could receive a blessing like the rest of them. Elder Cowley told him there was no need to be sick to receive a blessing, and he promptly placed his hands on the man's head and gave him the blessing he desired. We were all inspired by the courage and faith of this good man.

## UPPER SNAKE RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER - Rexburg, Idaho



*Kyle Walker*

**November** - Everyone enjoyed the delicious turkey dinner with all the trimmings on Thursday, November 20th. Our program featured Kyle Walker, counsellor at BYU-Idaho with a Ph.D. in Family Science. His presentation was: "Katherine Smith: Sister to the Prophet Joseph Smith." He wrote a book about her life and has done studies on the other members of the prophet's family. She was an eyewitness of the miraculous events at the dedication of the Kirtland Temple in 1836. They had eight children, with five living into adulthood. They settled in Plymouth, twenty miles south of Carthage. Her family was entertained by Joseph when they went to Nauvoo, and he sometimes gave her food, money, and clothing. She joined her brother Samuel to take Joseph's and Hyrum's bodies

back to Nauvoo from Carthage after they were martyred. She did not go with the Saints to the West, but she welcomed the church missionaries into her home when they came through the territory on their way to the East. Her husband died in 1853, and she raised her four sons to adulthood. She joined the RLDS church, but Brigham Young sent her \$1,300 to help her build a home. All through her life she maintained a belief in the Book of Mormon. She wrote in her journal that when the gold plates were in their home, one could feel the Spirit.

**December 18** - Nina Wilkins. Professor Emeritus, Ricks College Music Department. "The New Church Hymnbook—Secrets within the Pages and the Notes!"