

Trail Marker

VOLUME 22



6 NUMBER



Despite the uncertain weather everywhere, June is “bustin’ out all o-o-ver” (as a popular song goes). Trees and bushes are all leafed out, bees are on the flowers, birds are singing. New memories are being made in abundance – graduations, weddings, and family time. As we approach these summer activities, we will also see in this month of June grand preparations being made as we get ready to celebrate our 250th Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

June has become a pivotal month in world history. D-Day, for example, saw the launch of Operation Overlord in France, marking the beginning of the liberation of Western Europe from Nazi control and signalling the end of WWII. Years before that, the treaty of Versailles was signed, officially ending WWI. Those two June events alone have had a great impact on our lives.

We can also look to LDS history to note June events that shaped our lives and were pivotal. In June of 1829 Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery moved to Fayette, New York to complete the translation of the Book of Mormon. Later in that month the copyright for the Book of Mormon was obtained, a book that has blessed many lives.

In June of 1846, the Mormon Battalion began to form as part of the westward migration. That westward migration of pioneers has had a tremendous impact on our lives. We cannot thank those pioneers enough for making that trek, and for leaving us, modern-day pioneers, with precious values that define and guide us to this day.

A year later, on June 23rd, while travelling west along the Oregon Trail, the LDS pioneers eventually reached Independence Rock, Wyoming. That rock was a landmark location for the pioneers. There they were able to mark their progress towards the Salt Lake Valley. History states that pioneers, and other travellers celebrated Independence Day at that site, many leaving their names carved into the rock.

Those June events from the past have indeed carved an indelible mark on our character, culture, and freedoms. It is incumbent upon us as citizens of this great country to do our part in protecting and perpetuating the positive values of our ancestors, LDS pioneers or otherwise. People dynamics all around us are changing, not only in Utah, but throughout the country, and indeed the world. Our culture is being affected for good and bad. We as members of SUP have abundant opportunities to teach Pioneer values, values that can certainly help in mitigating the bad, and enhancing the good.

Despite the arduous events and journeys in the lives of our ancestors, and perhaps in our own lives, let us “bust out all over” and celebrate our freedoms and count our many blessings that came about because of our faithful ancestors. Have a great month of June!

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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NATIONAL NEWS

PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENT PASSES GRANT BARTON



Grant Barton, who was National President in 2006, passed away on May 22, 2026. Following are some highlights of his National Presidency. The year 2006 had been great for the Sons of Utah Pioneers. Much of the year focused on commemorating the faith and determination of the handcart pioneers:

- Early in the year, President-Elect Jay Smith visited the Kearney, Nebraska handcart celebration. In June, Grant represented the SUP in a similar commemoration in Iowa City where the original handcarts were built and outfitted.
- As part of the Days of '47, in an SUP-sponsored Sunrise Service on Temple Square, speaker Elder Merrill J. Bateman recounted poignant stories of handcart pioneers.
- In September 500 marchers pulled 100 handcarts over 7 miles from the mouth of Emigration Canyon to the LDS Conference Center as part of an SUP-sponsored reenactment of the entry of the first handcart companies into the Salt Lake Valley. Thanks to the Sugarhouse Chapter for organizing this successful event.
- National SUP dedicated the entire last issue of the Pioneer magazine to an overview of the sacrifices and the rescue of the Martin and Willie handcart pioneers. Our annual Historical Symposium in October was also on this theme.
- With a 100-voice choir, the program "Fresh Courage Take", cosponsored by the Sons and the Daughters of Utah Pioneers, premiered November 3rd with Elder Merrill J Bateman as keynote speaker.
- By year's end almost 1,000 "Remember Martins Cove" gold, silver, and bronze medallions, dedicated to the memory of our handcart pioneer ancestors, will have been purchased.
- Former Tabernacle organist Robert Cundick wrote and donated his "Mormon Pioneer Saga" to the SUP.

FROM HIS OBITUARY:

Throughout their lives, Grant and Marilyn opened their home to international students, missionaries, and refugee families. In 1979, they welcomed a Laotian refugee family into their home. Grant gently taught them The Plan of Salvation through an interpreter. The family later joined the Church, and the father became the first president of the Salt Lake Asian Branch.

Professionally, Grant served as Curriculum Manager for the Church from 1977 to 1982, supervising the publication of instructional manuals and contributing to major Church curriculum and scripture projects. While serving on the Church Meetinghouse Library Committee, he conducted foundational research that contributed to the publication of the Latter-day Saint edition of the Holy Bible with unified scripture references and page numbering.

From 1982 to 1985, Grant presided over the Texas Dallas Mission, leading hundreds of missionaries and witnessing the groundbreaking and dedication of the Dallas Texas Temple. As a devoted team, he and Marilyn worked side by side to uplift missionaries, strengthen members, and maintain lifelong relationships with many of those they served.

Grant later served for many years at the Missionary Training Center in Provo as Director of Training, helping pioneer programs that transformed missionary preparation, including the Training Resource Center where missionaries practiced teaching investigators. He also served as bishop of a BYU newly married student ward and later as a high counselor.

In 2000, Grant and Marilyn served in Ghana as Area Welfare Agents, helping thousands gain employment and develop self-reliance skills. This experience profoundly shaped their hearts, and they developed a deep love and kinship with the people they served. After returning and officially retiring, they continued humanitarian efforts in Africa with Reach the Children, supporting education and development initiatives.

2026 NATIONAL PRESIDENT ELECT NOMINEES

Bernell Taylor

The SUP) stands on a powerful foundation of heritage, values, and purpose. This proposal outlines three prioritized recommendations to strengthen SUP's relevance, improve operational effectiveness, and expand its reach.

1 - **Rebrand SUP** to clarify identity and improve public appeal

2 - **Systematize Operations** to simplify and unify chapter execution

3 - **Expand Reach** through targeted digital promotion

Together, these efforts will help SUP present a clear, consistent message, operate more effectively at all levels, and attract new members while remaining true to its mission.

I'm more comfortable focusing on others than speaking about myself, but to earn your trust, here's a little about who I am and why I'm seeking to serve as your president-elect. I am a hopeless dreamer and entrepreneur, owning many small businesses. I coached 100+ small businesses in their marketing strategies. Still do. I've personally built two handcarts. RaNae and I served in the Uganda Kampala Mission 2015-16 and the Canada Winnipeg Mission 2024-25. We thank God every day for the gift of life and to see the sun another day.

My experience as a marketer, business advisor, graphic designer, videographer and podcaster have provided me a unique skill set that I treasure. I hope to use my experiences to help SUP refresh and grow.

Jesus Christ is the center of my life. He is the reason. Without Him, life would have little meaning. With Him, nothing else really matters!



Norman E. Rademacher

My goals in accepting this position is bring back up the numbers in recruiting. Working along side some of the best men I know and respect. Not only learning from them but in sharing our mutual goals in making the Sons of Utah Pioneers more relevant in the youth of today. I have the connections to be able to use up to 30 different newspapers in inter mountain west in reaching out to people interested in our group I ask for your vote in this selection process.



APPOINTMENTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

SUP Portneuf Chapter President 2022

SUP Southern ID Area VP 2023-Present

Steel Workers Credit Union Board member

President of Bucyrus Erie Credit Union

President of Paul Roberts Employee Assoc.

President of East Side Canal company

President of Walker Creek water group

Active Temple worker since 2008-to present

Counselor in the McCammon Stake Missionary Presidency

Retired Army National Guard Several MOS'S

LDS Group Leader for 10 years in the National Guard

Welding and Electrical Inspector for Northwest Pipeline now Williams

Foreman on various Construction Companies such as Atlas Mechanical

Top Graduate of Army Welding School Aberdeen Maryland

Top Graduate of Army Petroleum School

Armor Platoon Sargent

VOTING WILL TAKE PLACE FROM AUGUST 1 - AUGUST 31, 2026



SAT, JULY 18TH 10AM-5PM

FREE PARK ADMISSION

**PIONEER
DESCENDANTS
NEEDED!
[CLICK HERE](#)
FOR DETAILS.**

Join us in celebrating Family Heritage Day at This is the Place Heritage Park. This is a community event that encourages each of us to consider the importance of the precious lessons that have been passed down from our ancestors. Explore the park and participate in the various activities designed to make this a wonderful annual event.

You are invited to participate in an interactive experience at This is the Place Heritage Park. Admission to the park is free, which includes:

- Heritage Village Exploration: Over 50 historical, authentic, and replica pioneer structures (cabins, shops, homes) to visit, including the Mormon Battalion Museum, the Native American Village and the Pioneer Children's Memorial. Descendants of the original Pioneer families will be sharing stories in each home
- Unlimited Train Rides: Rides on the replica trains that tour the park with historical context.
- Demonstrations: Live demonstrations from costumed interpreters, including a blacksmith, tinsmith, and saddler.
- Entertainment
- Splashpad

For an additional discounted fee of \$15, the Daily Experience Pass will also give you access to:

- Hands-on Activities: Panning for gold, Pony Rides, Craft Projects, Pony Rides, Petting Corral, Handcart Push, Rope Making, Blacksmith Demonstration, Tinsmith Demonstration, Print Shop Demonstration, Apothecary, Saddlery, Make a Pioneer Toy, Canoeing, the Children's Playground, Mini Train for children, and more...

Other venues include:

- Great Grub at the Huntsman Grill
- Flavor Brust Ice Cream
- Brigham's Donuts
- Shopping at the Heritage Gift Shop and ZCMI Candy Shop



10AM | TC CHRISTENSEN "KEEPING HISTORY ALIVE" & INTRO OF THE DAYS OF '47 ROYALTY

Our keynote speaker will be T.C. Christensen. T.C. has worked on many films such as, 17 Miracles, Ephraim's Rescue, Joseph Smith: Prophet of the Restoration, The Cokeville Miracle, Testaments, The Fighting Preacher, Escape From Germany, Raising the Bar, Forever Strong, National Geographic's Lewis & Clark, Disney's Roving Mars, The John Tanner Story, and Only a Stonecutter. His latest project is Standout: The Ben Kjar Story".

JOIN US ON THE 24TH OF JULY

DAYS OF '47 SUNRISE SERVICE

THIS IS ONE OF THE LONGEST STANDING TRADITIONS
OF THE SONS OF UTAH PIONEERS

HOSTED BY THE SALT LAKE PIONEER CHAPTER

110 SOCIAL HALL AVENUE CHAPEL - 2ND FLOOR
(USE NORTH SIDE ENTRANCE OF 95 STATE OFFICE TOWER)
7AM - 8AM (MUST BE SEATED BY 6:50AM)

FREE ADMISSION AND NO TICKETS ARE REQUIRED.
THE SUNRISE SERVICE IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
AND MEMBERS OF ALL RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS.

POSTING OF THE COLORS & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
THE MORMON BATTALION ASSOCIATION

CHORAL ARTS SOCIETY OF UTAH PERFORMING

INTRODUCTION OF THE DAYS OF 47 ROYALTY

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
ELDER WEATHERFORD T. CLAYTON,
EMERITUS GENERAL AUTHORITY SEVENTY



DAYS OF '47 PARADE - HANDCART PULL

COME WALK WITH THE SONS OF UTAH PIONEERS. 8:30AM - 11AM.

CALL 801.484.4441 TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE.

PARTICIPANTS MUST BE 14 YEARS OLD TO WALK IN THE PARADE.
BUT ANYONE AT LEAST 8 YEARS OF AGE CAN RIDE IN THE HANDCART.



2026 NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT | POCATELLO, IDAHO

ENCAMPMENT PRICING COMING SOON



JOIN US AT THE TYHEE STAKE CENTER
12146 W. Tyhee Rd., Pocatello, Idaho
September 17-19, 2026

Schedule of Events

Thursday, September 17th

- Temple Session at 10:00 am
- arrive at 9:15 am (sessions every 1/2 hour)
- 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Registration activities at the Tyhee Stake Center, (DUP) pioneer games, crafts, family history, local history, western night.
- 6:00 pm Welcome and Dinner
- 7:00 pm Speaker: Bryan Murray, retired judge speaking on Pocatello history followed by entertainment - Boyd Murdock, Roy McKee (music), and Todd Andrus (cowboy poet)

Friday, September 18th

- 8:00 am Registration
- Full-Day and Half-Day Tours
- 6:00 pm Dinner and Guest Speaker Timothy J. Dyches, Emeritus 70 - [more info](#)
- Entertainment by Angel Tones

Saturday, September 19th (Box Lunch Provided)

- 8:00 am National Board Members Mtg.
- 10:00 am Business Meeting for all SUP Members.
- 10:00 am Spouse's meeting, speaker TBD



Full-Day Tours (Lunch provided for each attendee)

Friday, September 18th

- 1 - ATV Trail head at 9:30 am.
1st meet at 8200 West Portneuf Rd. at 9:00 am (Mink Creek Ward building [Map](#)). Then proceed as a group to the trailhead.



Scout Mtn. Rd. is located on the West side of Scout Mountain in the Bannock Range, just south of Pocatello, Idaho, within the Caribou-Targhee National Forest. It is accessed via the Mink Creek Recreation Area (South Fork of the Mink Creek Rd. off of the main Mink Creek Rd. via Bannock Hwy.). The area features steep, forested terrain (Douglas fir, aspen) and is accessible by hiking and motorized trails, including high-clearance 4x4 trails. **Important Note:** Out of State attendees - get Idaho ATV permit from the Idaho Dept. of Parks and Recreation.

- 2 - Visit Malad Historical Sites
- bus Leaves at 8:30 am from the Tyhee Stake Center.



Due to the nineteenth century immigration to the Malad Valley of hundreds of Welsh converts to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter - Day Saints, this area has been recognized for having the largest concentration of Welsh people and their descendants in the world, second only to Wales itself. Come and see who these people are and where, and how they turned this amazing valley into the great place it is today. Four participants will visit the Oneida County Pioneer Museum in Malad City, and the Malad Valley Heritage Square in

Samaria. The tour will include actual restored cabins of Olive Davis Osmond (mother of "The Osmonds"), Jesse James (the famous outlaw), and Frank Clark (well-known campfire legend, who barely saved his own life by killing the grizzly bear, Old Ephraim) and others. The restoration of the Frank Clark cabin is currently underway and will hopefully be ready in time for the national encampment. Stops are also planned at the Samaria Cemetery, and the "Blue Goose" historic saloon, that is now a local confectionary and historical souvenir store.

- Theme -
"Gateway to the West"

JOIN US AT THE TYHEE STAKE CENTER
12146 W. Tyhee Rd., Pocatello, Idaho
September 17-19, 2026

Full-Day Tours (continued)

Note: All buses leave at 8:30 am from the Tyhee Stake Center

- 3 - Visit historic Chesterfield townsite and Soda Springs.

[More Info](#)



- 4 - Visit Blackfoot, Idaho historic sites and Potato Museum, Sho-Ban Museum and Honey Bee operation.

[More Info](#)



- 5 - Visit American Falls Idaho historical sites - Register Rock, Massacre Rocks, Oregon Trail, Power County Museum and potato processing.

[More Info](#)



Half-Day Tours (Instructions and maps provided)

Friday, September 18th

- 6a - Visit Idaho State University - 9:00 am in the Morning - personal auto to the [ICCU Dome](#). (Celebrating 125 year anniversary) Visit Strategic Rocks, Performing Arts Center, EAMES Reactor Simulator.

- 6p - Visit Idaho State University - 1:00 pm in the Afternoon - personal auto to the [ICCU Dome](#). (Celebrating 125 year anniversary) Visit [Nuclear Reactor Lab](#), EAMES Reactor Simulator (Richard Lindsay - presenter) and the [Performing Arts Center](#).

- 7a - Visit historic Pocatello - 9:00 am in the morning - personal auto to the Museum of Clean then visit the museum and historic ZCMI Memorial Building close by. [More Info](#)

- 7p - Visit historic Pocatello - 1:00 pm in the afternoon - personal auto to the Bannock County Museum. Visit the museum, and Fort Hall Replica then the miniature railroad. [More Info](#)

Lodging Options

Dump Station for campers 850 Barton Rd.,
Pocatello, ID - open
May 15th through November 15th

Hotels and places to stay
[Trip Advisor for Hotels & Places to Stay in Pocatello](#)



Best Western
1415 Bench Rd.
Pocatello, ID
(208) 471-5212



SONS OF THE UTAH PIONEERS

National Trek

OCTOBER 13-23, 2026



IN CELEBRATION OF 250 YEARS OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE
1776-2026

★★ MAJOR SITES WE PLAN TO VISIT ★★



PHILADELPHIA

- Oct. 13** Travel Day
Oct. 14-16 Sites in Philly
- Museum of the American Revolution
 - Independence Hall
 - Washington Crossing State Park
 - The Barracks
 - Valley Forge
 - National Constitution Center



GETTYSBURG

- Oct. 17**
 National Military Park



WASHINGTON, D.C.

- Oct. 18-22** Sites
Oct. 23 Travel Day
- U.S. Capital Building
 - National Mall (Museums and Memorials)
 - White House (exterior only)
 - Arlington Cemetery
 - Mount Vernon
 - Holocaust Museum
 - Washington D.C. Temple



TOUR DIRECTORS
 John M. Beck, Paul Wright
 and Steve Kruman



REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT
 \$400 per person will seal
 your spot, check only



SPACE IS LIMITED
 Reserve your seat by calling
 Pat at SUP 801.484.4441



REGISTRATION DEADLINE
 August 1st



PRICE \$2,800 PER PERSON
DOUBLE OCCUPANCY
 We will attempt to match solo travelers desiring a roommate



AIRFARE NOT INCLUDED IN THIS TOUR
 Do not purchase airfare until you received word
 from the SUP office to proceed with
 flight reservations.



★★ Join us as we walk in the footsteps of history and celebrate
 250 years of freedom, faith, and heritage. ★★

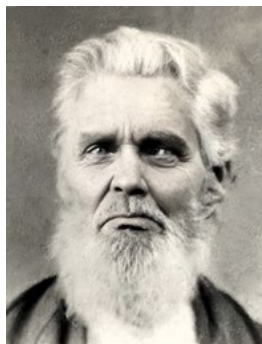


PIONEER STORIES

AMMON TUNIS RAPPLEYE

Article by Janell Kleinman Nichols, Great Granddaughter of Ammon Tunis Rappleye.

This history has been edited and condensed from a collection of histories in the possession of the writer. Those histories are lengthy and start with the Rappleye family in 15th century France.



In the early part of the 17th century, a group of Holland merchants founded the Dutch West Indies Company. In 1623 they sent the good ship Unity with a party of Walloons to establish trading posts on the Hudson River, thus becoming one of the earliest settlements in America. Among these

people was Jan Joris Rapalje. He had with him his young bride, Catelyn Trico. . .

One son of (Jan) Joris and Catelyn was given the name of Jeronimus, and it is through him, Ammon Tunis Rappleye, our Mormon pioneer ancestor, descended. Jeronimus was a man of importance in both Brooklyn and New York, as a farmer, merchant, Justice of the Peace, and Deacon of the Church. He also owned and operated several ships and was considered to be a very wealthy man.

Several families of the Rappleyes moved into New Jersey during the 18th century. Then in 1785 many descendants of the early settlers emigrated to the Lake country of central New York. Among these were several families of the Rappley family. They established themselves in the township of Ovid, Seneca County, and here in 1897, Ammon Tunis Rappleye was born. The immigrants in the area were imbued with strong religious beliefs and between 1800 and 1831 they established 8 of the 10 Dutch Reformed Churches in their neighborhood.

Ammon Tunis Rappleye, (known as Tunis), the son of John Ransom Rappleye and Margaret Tillier was born February 2, 1807, in Ovid, Seneca County,

New York. He was baptized a member of the LDS Church on November 20, 1832, just two years after the organization of the church. He was the only member of his family to join the new church.

At the time of Joseph Smith's instructions, through revelation, to go to Kirtland, Ohio, Ammon Tunis Rappleye went with the saints. He took part in the building of the Kirtland Temple. It is recorded in the Prophet Joseph's History of the Church that seventy men were called by the Prophet to receive a special blessing for the faithful performance of the work assigned them on this building, and Tunis Rappleye was among this group of men.

Shortly before this cherished blessing was given, he was married to Louisa Elizabeth Cutler, daughter of John Alpheus Cutler and Lois Lathrop, by the Prophet Joseph Smith.

The Saints remained in Kirtland long enough to witness the completion and dedication of the Temple on March 27, 1836, and to receive the rich fruits of the labors in the visitation of the Savior of the World, Moses, Elijah, Elias, and other heavenly messengers, each delivering the keys of authority held by them in ancient days, to the Prophet Joseph Smith. Hundreds of the Saints also received a "Pentecostal baptism in the fire of the Holy Spirit". Tunis and his wife were there to partake of this marvelous joy and be prepared with the Saints for the great events to follow.

The pointing finger of the Lord directed the Saints onward in the westward call to Missouri. Here, we find Tunis Rappleye and his wife, parents of their first child, born December 21, 1836, at Crooked River, Missouri.

Some time later, the Saints were driven from Missouri, and going eastward again, they located in Nauvoo. It seems that the Tunis Rappleye family did not reside in Nauvoo, for the records show that two children were born in Macedonia, Hancock County, Illinois. It is assumed that the Rappleye's did eventually move to Nauvoo as Louisa Cutler Rappleye received her endowment in the Nauvoo Temple, along with her father's family on December 29, 1845. Tunis Rappleye, for some reason was not one of the Saints to receive his endowments at this time. He was endowed later in the Old Endowment House in Salt Lake, and his wife was sealed to him on June 3, 1856.

As the Saints were being sent out of Nauvoo, Tunis Rappleye was given the assignment to drive a team of President Young's across the plains to the valley of the Great Salt Lake, arriving there on July 24, 1847.

Louisa had stayed at Council Bluffs, Iowa, while her husband had gone ahead on the westward trek, but he made several trips back and forth assisting other immigrants on their way to the valley. Finally, in 1853 Tunis took Louisa on to Utah. She had given birth to several children while at Council Bluffs, and then in Utah gave her life in the birth of another son. She and Tunis were blessed with 9 children, 3 died in infancy.

After the death of Louisa, Tunis was married to (three) other wives. . .

Ammon Tunis Rappleye died December 25, 1883, at Kanosh, Millard County, Utah.

1 Photo of Ammon Tunis Rappleye from Familysearch.org

2 Gravestone photo, Kanosh, Utah cemetery, from Familysearch.org

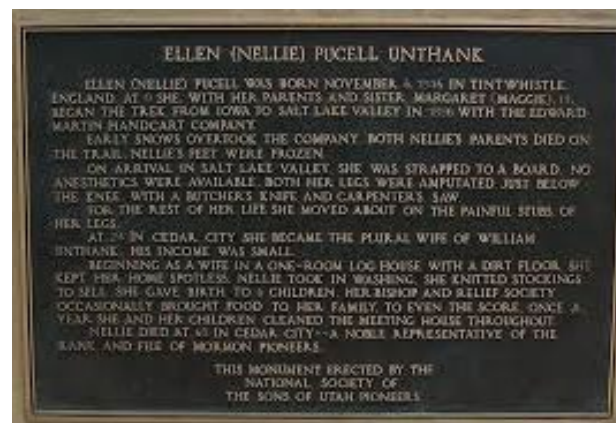
Monument Trek

Ellen (Nellie) Pucell Unthank



SUP #38 | GPS: N37 40 28.0, W113 04 07.7 ELEVATION 5858 FEET (37.6744444, -113.0688056)

Near 400 W 200 S Cedar City, Utah on the Southern Utah University campus you will find a statue, by sculptor Jerry Anderson of Leeds, Utah, depicting Ellen (Nellie) Pucell Unthank as a young girl as she began the trek to Salt Lake Valley. She was born on November 6, 1846, in Tintwhistle, England. At age nine her family began the trek from Iowa to the Salt Lake Valley in 1856 with the Edward Martin Handcart Company. Both parents perished along the trail. Nellie's feet were frozen, and she arrived in the Salt Lake Valley strapped to a board. With no anesthetic, both of her legs were amputated just below the knee with a butcher's knife.



The monument is placed here, near where her home in Cedar City was situated. The monument was dedicated August 3, 1991, by President Gordon B. Hinckley of the First Presidency, of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

MESSAGE FROM MONUMENT' DIRECTOR

To learn more about her life thereafter visit the "New and Improved" SUP/UPTLA Monuments Interactive map on SUP1847.com. Click the **Monuments link** on the home page, then click the link to the **Interactive Map**.



On the SUP/UPTLA Interactive Map type SUP #38 into the **search box**.



On this virtual map, an SUP logo marks the location. Click the logo and a picture with summary text appears. Scroll down to the bottom of the summary text and find the link on which you can click to dive into even more information and higher resolution pictures of the monument, and in this case a location of a parking lot near by to walk to the monument.

We hope you enjoy using this feature for your future trekking. The map will contain the latest information on all our SUP and UPTLA monuments. Since the map is human made, mistakes can happen. Please forward any errors detected to: Mark Walker

THE 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
4. News must be received by the 25th of each month

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!

NEW ANNUAL MEMBERS

Sherman Bailey Ogden Valley
Larry Behrman Timpanogos
Shane Berger Upper Snake River
Richard Bradford Maple Mountain
Mike Brown Bountiful
Jay Buckley Brigham Young
James O Coleman Cotton Mission
Bill V Cox Timpanogos
W Newell Curtis Timpanogos
Dwayne Davis Grove City
Mike Hadfield Box Elder
Blaine Hamblin Bear River
Tim Holyoak WorldWide Pioneer
Scott Huffaker Portneuf Pioneers

Melvin Isaacson. . Jordan River Temple
Kenny L Jacobsen Timpanogos
JR Knight Centerville
Fred Lasko Boulder Dam
Stephen McKellar Salt Lake City
Lowell Nelson Cedar City
Victor Parslow Sevier Valley
Barry Peterson WorldWide Pioneer
James B Preston Mountain Valley
Craig Rushton Timpanogos
Stanford A Stewart Brigham Young
Stanley E Syphus Taylorsville
Del Thornock Squaw Peak
Keith Tintle Cotton Mission

Travis Vandenberg Bear River
Dimitri White Cedar City
Keith J Wilding Upper Snake River
Kent Winder Porter Rockwell
James Yizar Portneuf Pioneers
Curtis R Young Timpanogos

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Pualani Graham Mt Nebo

CHAPTER ETERNAL MEMBERS

Grant Barton Holladay
Charles McDonald Boulder Dam

FOR UPCOMING SUP NATIONAL EVENTS, CLICK HERE

BRIGHAM YOUNG CHAPTER - Provo, Utah



Sondra Jones

The Brigham Young Chapter met on May 21, 2026, at the Culinary Arts Institute, Utah Valley University. We sponsor The Pioneer Life Creative Project for Fourth grade students in the Provo City School District. Students are invited to submit essays or other creative projects about an ancestor or some aspect of pioneer life as part of the Utah History studies. A certificate and a \$50.00 check were given to Liam Winward, Isla Salmon and Maggie Dallas. Each teacher received \$50.00, too. Next, the five 2026 Scholarship Winners were awarded their \$2,000 scholarships. The winners are Malik Filimoe'atu, Cathleen O'Dell, Kenzie Plagge, Hugo Proano, and Emilie Whatcott.

Following the awards, Sondra Jones gave her presentation entitled, "The Evolving Indian Policy of Brigham Young and Utah's Often Stormy Mormon-Indian Relations". She received her doctorate and master's degrees from the University of Utah and Brigham Young University, respectively, with a focus on American History and Native American studies. Over the years she taught as an adjunct instructor at the University of Utah, Utah Valley University, and Brigham Young University.

Her classes included World History, American History, Utah History, and Native American History, as well as various writing classes. She has written, presented, and published scholarly works focused on the Ute Indians, Mormon-Indian relations, the Indian slave trade, the Spanish Trail, and western folklore. The presentation was interesting, detailed, and informative. Dr. Jones discussed how Brigham Young's Native American policy was driven by the famous maxim: "It is cheaper to feed the Indians than to fight them." He advocated diplomacy, trade, and agricultural assimilation. However, his expansionist policies resulted in displacement, conflicts like the Walker War and the Black Hawk War, and the indentured servitude of Indian children. At various times he also told the Saints to defend themselves. There were also lots of issues that he could not control such as the conflicts among the Indian tribes and Indian slave trade. Despite all these issues Young's overriding policy was that it was better to "feed than fight."

CEDAR CITY CHAPTER - Cedar City, Utah



Coral Canyon

This past month we awarded \$1000 scholarships to three of our local high school seniors: Sarah Allred from Canyon View HS, Sharon Christensen from Cedar HS, and Tiago Maher from Parowan HS. They were all outstanding candidates, and we look forward to meeting them at our annual town meeting on July 24th.

In June we are planning another trek, tentatively to Corral Canyon near Milford on

June 20. We are also planning to march in the 4th of July parade in Cedar City again, this year.

CENTERVILLE CHAPTER - Centerville, Utah



T.C. Christensen

Our SUP Centerville Chapter experienced two wonderful events in recent weeks.

Trek: Our trek chair, Don Olsen, arranged for full day of events taking 40 of us on a chartered bus to visit the Topaz Museum on Main Street in Delta Utah. It was an amazing experience to see how the Japanese people from the Bay area were relocated from their long-established homes with only a trunk and some luggage to a desolate camp 16 miles North of Delta. It was a humbling experience to learn about that part of our country's history and the part that involved Utah. It is worthwhile for everyone to make a visit to that museum. We then traveled to our state's first territorial state house in Fillmore and learned about the short-lived time period when our capitol city was in the center of the state.

Meeting: Our May SUP event was a joint meeting hosted by our Centerville DUP Camp. We had over 140 in attendance and

were treated to an evening with the film maker T.C. Christensen who has produced many inspirational movies. One of his most recent works is "Escape from Germany" which tells the story of missionaries who had to leave Germany on short notice as WWII broke out. He told some interesting experiences and problems involved with making the movie. One of the scenes showed several missionaries running to catch a train. They were not allowed to film them jumping on a moving train, so they filmed the actors repeatedly jumping on the stationary train and then interspersed those shots with scenes of the moving train. The final result looked very real in the movie. He also told how he found 79 descendants of the missionaries and used them as extras in his film. The mission song was "Do What is Right" and Elder Seibold whistled that song to locate the missionaries at the crowded train stations as they escaped. When the mission president passed away years later, his missionaries whistled that song at his funeral.

COTTON MISSION CHAPTER - St George, Utah



*Durant McArthur, Tom Nead,
Landree Platt, Mark Wells*

Cotton Days: The Cotton Mission Chapter had a busy month in May. We participated in the Washington Cotton Days by presenting a display of pioneer artifacts as well as actual wagons, buckboards and even a stagecoach from the Dean T. Terry collection. In cooperation with the local Daughters of Utah Pioneers we hosted groups of second graders from many local area elementary schools teaching them about pioneer life and letting them participate in touching the artifacts and even pulling a handcart.



Steve Hunt at Cotton Days

Scholarship Awards: At the May dinner meeting we presented nine \$1500 scholarships to area High School graduates. In addition, we initiated a new program this year, headed by Tom McArthur and Loren Webb recognizing 7th graders who also wrote essays about pioneer ancestors. Thanks to scholarship chairman Durant McArthur and over 45 essay readers who carried out the selection process. The funds

awarded were raised by donations from the Cotton Mission chapter members, some who donated substantially. The awards were presented by chairman Durant McArthur, President Mark Wells, and president-elect Tom Nead. Winners included: Lucia Chehda, Career Tech High School; Cherish Warren, Career Tech High School; Rylie Terry, Crimson Cliffs High School; Reegan Zufelt, Desert Hills High School; Lily Harwood, Desert Hills High School; Lucy Christensen, Dixie High School; Landree Platt, Enterprise High School; Lydia Paxman, Success Academy; and Ashlyn White, Success Academy. Scholarship winners Rylie Terry and Cherish Warren each gave a short verbal response followed by talks from high school counselor Suzette Coombs (Desert Hills High School) and Reed Noble one of the 45 essay judges. 7th Grade winners: 1st place - Sophia Heppler;

2nd place - Peyton Smith; 3rd place - (Two winners) Grace Johnson and Emrie Cooper.

JORDAN RIVER TEMPLE CHAPTER - South Jordan, Utah



scholarships

Here is a photo of those three who received a \$1,000 college or university scholarship from our Chapter this night, May 13, 2026. Also shown is our fifth grader who won the contest in her fifth grade class for her essay on someone from her pioneer heritage.

On the left is Stella Rich. She won the financial award for writing her essay on her fourth great grandfather, Charles C. Rich. He served as an Apostle in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints during the administration of Brigham Young. To Stella's right is Luke Stepan. He recently received a mission

call to serve in the Chile Concepcion Mission. He plans on attending BYU after his mission. To the right of Luke is Ashlinn Marie Barbre. She recently also received a mission call to serve in the Pittsburgh Pennsylvania Mission. Her goal in life is to become an elementary school teacher. And finally, to the right of Ashlinn is the mother of our final scholarship winner, Mrs. Bronson. She is holding a picture of the scholarship winner, her son, Luke Bronson. Luke is already serving in the Armenia/Georgia Mission. We will hold his scholarship funds until his return.

MORGAN PIONEER CHAPTER - Morgan, Utah



John Porter



Scholarship recipients

Scholarships: On Monday, May 18th the Morgan chapter of the Sons of the Utah Pioneers gathered with their wives for their monthly luncheon, the last before the summer break. The gathering was held at the Rock Chapel in Morgan and the lunch was again catered by "Larry's to Go." Chapter president, Howard Hansen, presented the 2026 Morgan High School senior scholarships. This year's recipients each received a \$1500 scholarship. Recipients included Alexis Larsen, daughter of Nate and Amy Larsen, Landon Haddock, son of Brian and Jennifer Haddock and Cade Randall, son of Ryan and Tricia Randall. Congratulations seniors! All three have already accepted a call to serve a full-time mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and will complete this service before returning to their college studies.

Speaker: Following lunch, we heard from President John Porter. President Porter has served as an Elder's Quorum president, Bishop, Stake President, Mission President, Temple sealer, Stake Patriarch and has recently been called as the new President of the Odgen Temple. He spoke about the blessings of being a covenant making and covenant keeping people. He shared an example of one of his pioneer ancestors whose life was difficult but blessed because of her devotions to her faith. He presented examples of studies about the success and happiness in the lives of those who live by their religious beliefs, especially those of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. President Porter closed by saying that we are all heirs to the blessings of God, if we choose to be and that by keeping our covenants, we will have a better life now and infinitely better in the life to come. He stated that our sacrifices now will benefit the lives of our posterity for generations to come.

MT NEBO CHAPTER - Nephi, Utah



Alan and Linda Clarke

April Meeting: The Mt. Nebo dinner/meeting was held on April 24. The speakers were Alan and Linda Clarke, who are the coordinators of the Springville South region "Healing through the Savior: The Addiction Recovery Program" of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. They coordinate the work over 70 missionaries who use the church's version of the 12-step program to help those who are seeking to overcome many kinds of addiction. The volunteers also work with family members who need support in dealing with loved ones facing the challenges of addiction. Their basic message is not "once an addict, always an addict," but rather "the Savior can heal." The extent of the program is phenomenal. The LDS church holds 300,000 12-step meetings per week worldwide. Those participating in the program are from all walks of life. Anonymity is maintained and details of one's transgression can be kept private. For a schedule of meetings, just scan the QR code or go to <https://www.oremaddictionrecovery.com/weekly-schedule>. All are welcome to attend; church affiliation is not necessary. No appointment is needed.

May Meeting: This month's speaker will be Zander Sturgill who will be discussing "Early Interactions of Native Americans and Europeans in Utah." Zander is of Native American descent and is a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. His perspective brings insights into the sometimes peaceful, sometimes turbulent history of the Europeans' expansion into the Native American lands of Utah. There is no cost to attend the presentation, only for dinner. The dinner and meeting will be held at 6:30 pm on Thursday May 28, at the Central Utah Veterans Home, 1551 N. Main St, Payson.

SUP Scholarships for Local FFA Students: The Mount Loafer chapter of SUP recently awarded four \$1000 scholarships to very deserving FFA students graduating from Payson and Salem Hills High Schools. Next month, we'll have details about the scholarship winners. We'd like to give special thanks to our sponsor Pacific Horizon Credit Union and many generous SUP members for their donations to our scholarship fund.

MOUNTAIN VALLEY CHAPTER - Heber City, Utah



Jim Judd



Tom Tabby Memorial SUP #273

Monument: On Saturday, May 2, 2026, the Mountain Valley Chapter dedicated a replacement monument in the Heber City Cemetery at the gravesite of Tom Tabby. In 1988, the original Tom Tabby monument was installed by the Chapter but there was no number assigned. Over the years the monument has been damaged by age and weather conditions. In collaboration with the Wasatch Community Foundation a new SUP Monument #273 has been placed. Tom Tabby was the son of Native American Chief Tabby. The monument commemorated the historic events surrounding the boy's burial in 1867 when Chief Tabby killed Tom's pony and burned it on top of his grave after he had been buried in the "white man's way."

Meeting: The Mountain Valley Chapter held their Chapter

Meeting on May 14, 2026. The guest speaker was Jim Judd who is currently the Principal of Timpanogos Middle School in Heber City, Utah. Principal Judd has recently been appointed as the new Principal of Wasatch High School in Heber City. Jim is a native of Nephi, Utah, he holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology from Utah State University and a Master of Education in Administration from the University of Utah. Principal Judd gave a presentation about the History of Education in Wasatch County, Utah. Pioneer children in the later 1800s were taught in subscription one-room private schools where parents hired a teacher. Wasatch County School District was established in 1898. Tax supported schools developed in the 1900s. Principal Judd showed pictures of school buildings, teachers and students throughout the county and related many interesting stories.

OGDEN PIONEER CHAPTER - Ogden, Utah



JR Johansen

During the month of May the Ogden Pioneer Chapter took a TREK to the Ogden Valley. After lunch at the Chuck-A-Rama Restaurant in Ogden, over 40 members carpooled to the old lime kiln in Ogden Canyon where the lime was prepared for use in the brickmaking for early pioneer homes. Greg Montgomery was the presenter regarding the history, use, and importance of this operation to the Weber County area. We next traveled to the art studio of renowned artist, JR Johansen, in Huntsville, UT. He talked about his history as an artist and his project doing portraits of all the children who died in the Robb Elementary school massacre in Uvalde, Texas, on 24 May 2022. He also does portraits of LDS missionaries who have either died just before their missions, during their missions, or just after

completing their missions. He shared stories and miracles from his experiences with the families who receive these portraits of their sons and daughters. The group then travelled to Eden Park in Eden, UT. This park was and is the center of the plotted town of Eden. There is a wonderful monument park which displays several large sandstone monuments with bronze plaques telling the stories of the early settlement of the Ogden Valley, the Native Americans who inhabited the area, early settlers who later became prominent citizens of the State of Utah, and pioneer life in this remote area. This TREK was a great experience and deepened our love and appreciation of this area in which we live.

PORTER ROCKWELL CHAPTER - Salt Lake City South, Utah



Scholarship Recipients

Thanks to a generous matching contribution, the Porter Rockwell Chapter was able to award five \$1,000 scholarships on April 22 to deserving senior high school graduates in the South Salt Lake Valley area. They are (in photo, l to r): Vanery Gomez, Riverton HS; Caroline Adams, Bingham HS; Bob Perry, Scholarship Chairman; Gavin Christensen, Corner Canyon HS; Oktober Cuch, Corner Canyon HS; and Stacey Ovaes (kneeling), Mountain Ridge HS. These students presented essays depicting great contributions made by their own ancestors or other historical persons, from their families, tribe, or admired acquaintances. Each story was inspiring, showing that these students had really done their research and gotten to know their subjects intimately.

Oktober told of the peace-seeking Ute Chief Taby-To-Kwanah. Stacey told of a faithful convert, Ann Quale Cannon, who emigrated from England with her husband but never made it to Utah but left a large faithful posterity. Gavin told how the legacy of the Pioneers has inspired him to overcome obstacles. Caroline told of the life of John Daniel Holladay, whose contemporaries honored him by naming a Utah city for him. Vanery told about Romania B. Pratt – one of the first Utah women to obtain a degree in medicine – and how Romania has inspired her to pursue a career in medicine. These young people are destined to bless their families, communities, and perhaps the world through their life's work.

SALT LAKE CITY CHAPTER - Salt Lake City, Utah



Ron Bateman

Ron Bateman spoke at our May 14 chapter meeting about the Overland Stage Line and Pony Express. "I grew up hearing the exciting, real-life tales of Indian attacks where I lived. My ancestors settled in the Deep Creek Valley which was a home station for the Overland Stage Line and Pony Express in the 1860's," he said. He presented interesting stories about the Pony Express and local riders, the Overland stage, and the West Desert. Ron Bateman was raised in the small community of Ibapah (also known as Deep Creek), Utah which is located on the Utah Nevada border 50 miles south of Wendover. His maternal ancestors arrived there in 1868. He attended the one room Ibapah Elementary School until the end of his 8th grade year. At that time, he enrolled in Tooele High School and lived on a dairy farm in Erda. There was no junior or senior high school near Ibapah, so he had to leave home. He met his future wife Beverly in high school at the end of his senior year.

After attending Utah State University for one year, he served a two-year mission in the Great Lakes Mission. He graduated from Utah State University with BS, MS and EdS degrees in Educational Audiology. He married Beverly Christiansen in the Salt Lake Temple almost 60 years ago. He served as bishop in Granger, Utah while he and Bev were raising their four children. They lived there for 14 years and moved to South Jordan where they have lived for the past 41 years. They have 17 grandchildren and four great grandchildren. The Batemans served at the Conference Center at Temple Square and then a one-year mission at Bluff Fort, Utah where the "Hole in the Rock" pioneers settled. They have served in the Oquirrh Mountain Temple since 2011. Ron enjoys researching and writing history books. He just completed one on Hilda Erickson, the last living pioneer who lived to be 108 years of age.

SETTLEMENT CANYON CHAPTER - Tooele, Utah



Ron Bateman

On May 7, the Settlement Canyon Chapter hosted Ron Bateman, who related stories on Utah's West Desert, the Pony Express, Overland Stage, and the pioneers involved. He quoted from "LEARNING FROM LIVING" The Spoken Word, March 8, 2026, by Derrick Porter. A few quotes follow.

"There is something noble about those who have gone before us—having persevered through the difficulties of their day and, in the end, having lived. After all, it's the learning that comes from living that endures across the years, teaching simple truths that were helpful then and still apply today.

"Though our ancestors lived long ago, sometimes in places far away, their stories can still powerfully impact us now.

"Our ancestors had done hard things and been blessed for it . . . We move forward on the shoulders of those who came before us. . . "There is a spirit that enters our hearts as we learn about our ancestors. It ignites gratitude and provides perspective—an understanding of where we've come from and how we can approach the future with faith and determination.

"The learning that comes from living is priceless. As we look toward the future, let us also look to the past, seeking the wisdom of those who have lived before us. . ."

SQUAW PEAK CHAPTER - Provo, Utah



Dr. Jay Buckley

Dinner Meeting.: Dr. Jay Buckley, BYU Associate Professor of History, joined us for an evening of “Seeking Sacajawea.” A Lemhi Shoshone woman, Sacajawea served as an invaluable interpreter, guide, and diplomat for the Lewis and Clark Expedition (1804-1806) in exploring the Louisiana Territory. As native language interpreter and through her diplomatic skills with indigenous tribes, knowledge of the land, and food

gathering abilities, Sacajawea provided invaluable help to meet the mission’s objectives. Dr. Buckley helped chapter members understand the work of the historian in interpreting sometimes conflicting information about Sacajawea’s life.

Trek: A chapter trek is planned for June 27th to visit the Erickson Antique and Classic Power Museum in Wallsburg, Utah.

TEMPLE FORK CHAPTER - Logan, Utah



Lisa Gabbert

Greetings from beautiful Cache Valley. This month we had a great dinner meeting at the Logan Country Club. Following dinner, we awarded five scholarships to seniors from several high schools in Cache Valley. Our speaker for the evening was Professor Lisa Gabbert from Utah State University. She is Professor of Folklore Studies. She explained how legends or lore

is started. The legend of The Bear Lake Monster was discussed. The Bear Lake Monster has origins with Native Americans but received much interest when a newspaper article published in Salt Lake City brought the legend to life. Articles continued for 28 years until the original author admitted to a hoax or practical joke.

UPPER SNAKE RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER - Rexburg, Idaho



Kirby Heyborne and Garrett Batty

Meeting: The Singing Mormons! Sometimes a group just gets lucky. That was the case when one of our chapter members, Roger Sorenson, helped us schedule a delightful evening of celebrities and music. Roger was a missionary in the 60’s in Denmark and was part of a singing group, The Singing Mormons. They greatly enhanced the missionary work in Denmark and grew in popularity to rival the Beatles and Osmonds. That group is now being featured by a movie foundation “Help Them See.” They have chosen this story to make into a documentary. This is what we learned about and enjoyed in our chapter meeting. A founding partner in this foundation is Kirby Heyborne and Garrett Batty. Kirby and Garrett each talked about their foundation and “The Singing Mormons” documentary. They hope that their foundation can be funded through donations that will continue to allow them to make additional faith-based movies. As part of their program, six young men joined them to sing some of the

songs sung by the original Singing Mormons. Their names are: Jarom Huntsman, Cooper Merrill, Kaden Childes, Will Schank, Isaac Ford, and Nathan McCown. They all sing harmony and dress like the original missionaries who took part in the Singing Mormon ensemble. To learn more and donate to this foundation, click on: <https://helpthemseefoundation.org/>

Merit Awards: “Carry On” Merit Award Recipients. Each year, the Upper Snake River Valley Chapter of the Sons of Utah Pioneers awards four local high school seniors with the “Carry On” Merit Award. They receive a check for \$750.00 and a framed picture by Al Rounds studio of a young pioneer girl pulling a handcart. The recipients this year are Sullivan Carter (Sugar/Salem High School), Anna Moon (Rigby High School), Ashley Jensen (South Fremont High School), and Mica Hepworth (Madison High School). Asley and Mica were both excused because of other graduation functions they needed to attend.