

Trail Marker

VOLUME 22



5 NUMBER



In many languages, particularly in East and Southeast Asia, the name of this new month that we are now in is referred to as “month 5.” It is important to acknowledge that we are currently in the fifth month of the year, May. If we made resolutions for this year, and we have not yet acted upon them accordingly, we had better move along.

In English, the month of May, is said to be named after the Roman goddess of plant growth, Maia. May might represent the growth and vitality of plant life, but it can also symbolize a time for growth and new possibilities within our personal development. That personal development can be a catalyst in supporting the growth of others around us, including those within the Sons of Utah Pioneers.

The growth of SUP membership remains a crucial priority. Historically, SUP has experienced variable trends in member enrollment; some years saw decreases, while others showed marked increases. Periods such as the Depression, wars, and pandemics resulted in significant membership reductions. In response, the SUP implemented strategies to foster new membership growth, which proved effective. However, subsequent declines still recur (as we saw during COVID-19), underscoring the ongoing challenge of sustaining steady membership levels.

SUP has proven that membership growth can recover. In fact, in the past few years we have been able to welcome many new members. Most of those new members did not just step through the membership door on their own; they were invited by our current members – not through

coercion, not through false expectations, but through loving invitation and planned show-and-tell. Several new members with whom I am acquainted, many of whom were personally introduced to SUP by myself, have expressed their sincere appreciation for the opportunity to observe SUP in practice and for being invited to join this wonderful organization.

SUP offers a range of high-quality programs designed to retain current members and attract prospective members. Several chapters provide scholarship opportunities for youth; other chapters host essay writing competitions for younger children. All chapters organize speaker presentations and events throughout the year. Given these extensive offerings to all ages, it is important that we effectively communicate our activities and initiatives to friends, acquaintances, and our communities.

History has shown that SUP membership attrition is inevitable. But history has also shown that membership loss is certainly recoverable. As we progress through May and beyond, I encourage everyone to actively contribute to fostering continued membership growth. Reach out to your family, friends and acquaintances about SUP. SUP leadership consistently promotes this initiative; however, its successful implementation relies upon the active participation of every member within SUP.

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

FRIENDS & FAMILY DISCOUNT ENDS TODAY

As of May 1, 2026 the Friends and Family Membership discount is expiring and all membership dues will then be \$60.

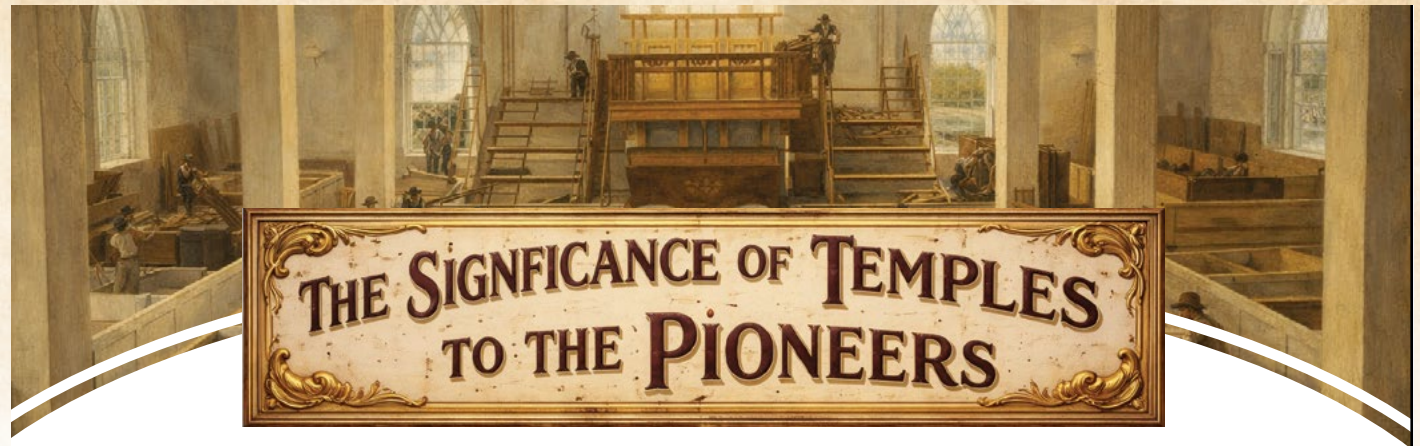
If you know anyone that is considering joining the SUP, they have until tonight to lock in our Friends and Family rate of just \$35.

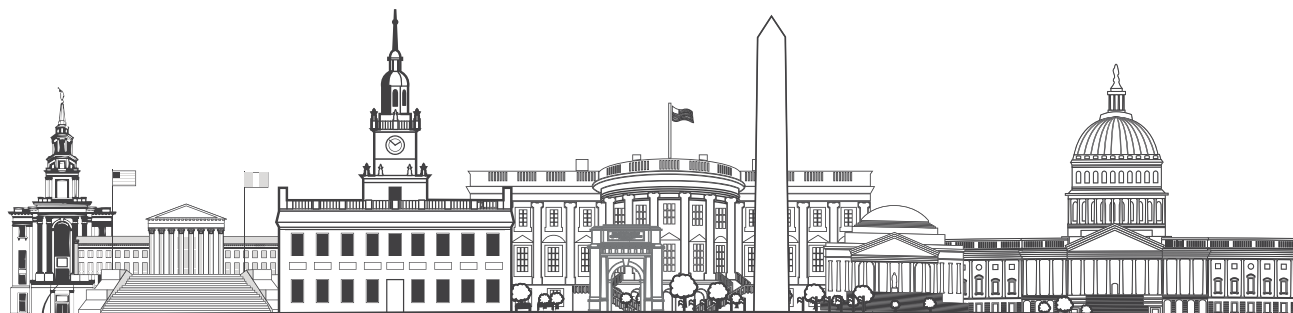
We invite you all to reach out to your family and friends before they miss out on these savings, and thank you for your continued support of the Sons of Utah Pioneers.

Thank you!

Pat Cook would like to thank everyone for all the kindness shown to her at the passing of her husband.

2026 NATIONAL HISTORICAL SYMPOSIUM





SUP 2026 NATIONAL TREK

PHILADELPHIA • WASHINGTON D.C.

In celebration of 250 years of American Independence 1776-2026

ITINERARY:

ARRIVE IN PHILADELPHIA - Tuesday October 13

PHILADELPHIA - Wednesday Oct. 14th - Friday Oct. 16th

Museum of American Revolution

Independence Hall

Liberty Bell

Washington Crossing State Park

The Barracks

Valley Forge

National Constitution Center

GETTYSBURG - Saturday, Oct. 17th

National Military Park

Authentic Amish Dinner

WASHINGTON D.C. - Sunday Oct. 18th - Thursday Oct. 22nd

National Mall, Museums and Memorials

Arlington Cemetery

Mount Vernon

Holocaust Museum

RETURN HOME - Friday October 23

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

ESTIMATED PRICE: To be determined

SPACE IS LIMITED: Reserve your seat by calling Pat at SUP 801.484.4441 \$400 per person refundable deposit (check only) will seal your spot

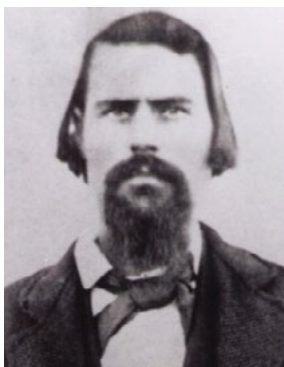
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: August 1st

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





PIONEER STORIES



It wasn't long after (Joseph Smith's) death that the mobs... caused the Twitchells to ... sell their farm but could not, so they abandoned it and moved to Nauvoo...until...forced to leave in 1846.

They went as far as Council Bluffs, IA. Here they stayed a year and planted corn and potatoes

for the saints that were to follow. They left Council Bluffs in (1848), one year after Brigham Young... They were in the Ezra Chase (Company) arriving in Utah in September. James Ephraim was now 13 years old. He drove an outfit of two oxen and took his turn like his dad, standing guard against attack from hostile Indians.

They came to Ogden and built one of the first log cabins other than the ones the trappers had built. (Here, his sister, Sarah Celestia, was born 22 October 1848. The first white child born in Ogden.)³ The next spring, however I think they saw gold in "them there hills," in California. They left (Ogden) and went to work in the (California) gold fields. (His oldest brother was already in California as he had come with the Mormon Battalion.) James Ephraim was apparently an excellent rifleman. When he was 14 years old and on their way to California, he was in the wagon, sick with scarlet fever, but they were short of meat. They got him out of bed as they found some buffalos and got him to shoot one of the herd.

They spent the winter of 49 and 50 on a claim on the Sacramento River. His father took out about \$150 and abandoned the claim. They... went to San Bernardino, (California) where they once again took up farming. While living here Mr. Brown, a widower, left two of his children with them. One of the girls' names was Margaret Moore, his stepdaughter. Years later, James Ephraim ends up marrying (Margaret) when she was 17 and he was 22. Mr. Brown never returned for his children.

The family then decided they wanted to move back to Utah, so in 1857, they moved to Beaver, UT. They were some of the first to settle the town. They built a home there but soon found good farmland a short distance away on Indian Creek, which is now Manderfield. Their homes consisted of small log houses, dirt roofs and fireplaces at one end. Here they had 480 acres of land. They raised grains, hay, cattle, sheep and pigs. One pig is remembered to weigh 510 lbs.

...The year 1866 brought many Indian disturbances and all able-bodied men were called to go wherever called to defend a community against the attacks. They were known as minutemen. James Ephraim was such a person.

...He loved to hunt and the country around Beaver was a paradise to him. ...One day while hunting up Indian Creek Canyon, he... came to a tiny stream. It was very poor water, having wigglers in it, but he was so thirsty he decided to strain the water through his handkerchief. ... After quenching his thirst, there stood before him two buck Indians. They appeared to be very hostile, but because he could

speak their language, he was able to reason with them, (so) he was left unharmed.

...He was very strict in his home, never allowing his boys to do any scuffling in the house. (Now I know where my dad got his strictness).

...He was a shareholder in the old Beaver Woolen Mills which was erected in 1878 and provided work for (several) men, women and girls. It was closed in 1900 and stood idle for (several) years. Finally, it was converted to a mattress factory but was destroyed by fire in 1920.

Some six years after his first marriage, he took another woman to wife, Francis Manhard. ...He had 11 children with each one of his wives. ...This second wife tells how often unlawful searches took place in her home in order to catch him. He was finally arrested, refusing to deny his second family. He was sentenced to six months in jail and a \$500 fine. When asked to deny his family or go to jail, his reply was, "if it means losing my family and my salvation, I'll take prison."

He was always active in the church... (and)... served as the (Manderfield) Branch President...

He lived for 48 years in Beaver. Three of his sons, one of them, my grandpa, Willis Twitchell, had moved to Manila, Utah and settled there. They moved (James) and his wives to Manila...where... he died in 1917.²³

Photo from Familysearch.org, James Ephraim Twitchell memories

2 Main Article submitted by a member of SUP Ogden Chapter

3 Familysearch.org verifying articles written by Gayle Hendricks and Mary Olson Almond

Monument Trek

Fort Hall

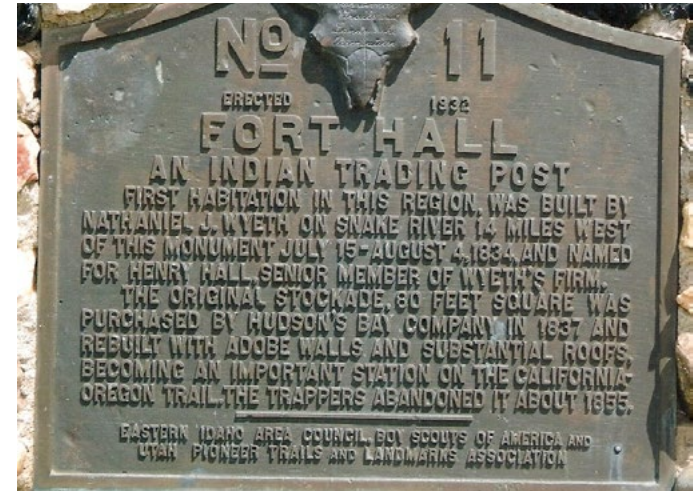
AN INDIAN TRADING POST



UPTLA #11 | GPS: N43 01 28.74, W112 26 17.40 ELEVATION 4447 (43.0246500, -112.4381667)

In Idaho, Bingham County, just south of the town of Fort Hall on Hwy. 91, on the Oregon Trail you can find the Monument UPTLA #11 placed in 1933 that commemorates the first habitation in the region built by Nathaniel J. Wyeth on the Snake River 14 miles west of the monument July 15 - August 4, 1834. It was named for Henry Hall, senior member of Wyeth's firm.

The original stockade, 80 feet square was purchased by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1837 and rebuilt with adobe walls and substantial roofs, becoming an important station on the California - Oregon Trail. The trappers abandoned it about 1855.



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!

NAMECHAPTER

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Tom Zaleski Cedar City
Travis Sanders Hurricane Valley
Tye Hoffmann Settlement Canyon

CHAPTER ETERNAL MEMBERS

Kenneth M Smith ... Salt Lake Pioneer
Alan Turner Morgan Pioneer
Rulon Hillam Grove City

NAMECHAPTER

NEW ANNUAL MEMBERS

Cory Higgins Jordan River Temple
Derek R Conner Cotton Mission
H David Boggess Temple Quarry
James Broadbent Boulder Dam
Jason Burt Ogden Valley
John Muir Cotton Mission
Kelly Anderson Temple Fork
Kevin Clark Mountain Valley
Mark Henshaw . Washington DC Area
Matthew Boone Bear River
Mike Farrer Maple Mountain
Richard Cheever Snow Horse
Rick Maingot Maple Mountain
Ronell Crossley Timpanogos
Stephen Bunker Brigham Young
Steve Songer Ogden Valley



FOR UPCOMING SUP NATIONAL EVENTS, CLICK HERE

BOULDER DAM CHAPTER - Boulder City / Las Vegas, Nevada



trek to Lytle Ranch

For our April SUP Trek, the Boulder Dam Chapter, led by trek Chairman Clare Tobler, met at Castle Cliffs off Old Highway 91 near Beaver Dam, Arizona. Historians and Old Spanish Trail Association members Ashley Hall (Boulder Dam Chapter) and Al Matheson (Cedar City Chapter) shared the rich history of the area. This historic site—once home to an early 1900s gas station serving Model T travelers—sits along a key travel corridor where the mountains open to a safe passage toward Southern California. Evidence of Native American life remains visible in the cliffs, where Paiutes carved planting pockets to grow corn and retain water. Later, at the Old Lytle

Ranch, located 36 miles west of St. George just inside the Utah border, the group met Dallin, who manages the conservation area through BYU. He and his family help preserve the Beaver Dam Wash watershed, native vegetation, and historic structures, including a habitat supporting 276 species of birds. The ranch was originally settled in the 1870s by Dudley Leavitt, the great-great-grandfather of April Dyer. His daughter Hannah Terry later lived there, raising six children largely on her own after facing persecution related to polygamy, before leaving the area in 1912. In 1986, BYU purchased the property and has done a great job of conserving the area in its natural setting.

BOUNTIFUL CHAPTER - Bountiful, Utah



Brian Reeves

Our March 18 program was on "The Mountain Meadow Massacre." Brian Reeves was our presenter. Brian is a retiree from the Church History Department. While there, he worked with Richard Turley on the project, which took fourteen years to complete, and left no stone unturned. Brian lives in St. George

but agreed to attend our chapter and share his insights with us. The program began at about 7pm. We encourage members to invite friends, neighbors and relatives that might like to know more about the Sons of the Utah Pioneers.

BOX ELDER CHAPTER - Brigham City, Utah



Box Elder Middle School Madrigals

The Box Elder Chapter of the Sons of the Utah Pioneers gathered for the monthly dinner meeting at the Academy Center in Brigham City on April 8, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. After a delicious meal the entertainment was provided by the Box Elder Middle School Madrigals under the direction of Jeremy Briggs. The choir numbers included a wide variety of compositions

including spirituals, contemporary, and patriotic. A highlight was their performance of a salute to each branch of the US military. With many veterans in attendance this music was greatly appreciated. Next month the chapter will present three college scholarships to deserving young people from Box Elder and Bear River High schools.

BRIGHAM YOUNG CHAPTER - Provo, Utah



Lisa Olsen Tait

The Brigham Young Chapter met on April 9, 2026, at the Culinary Arts Institute, Utah Valley University. Our speaker was Lisa Olsen Tait, managing historian for women's history at the Church History Department. She has worked on the Gospel Topics Essays, Revelations in Context, and the Saints series. Most recently, she was co-author of the book *Carry On: The Latter-day Saint Young Women Organization, 1870-2024*. Her personal scholarship focuses on Susa Young Gates and women's organizations in the early twentieth century. Lisa earned a PhD in American Literature and Women's Studies from the University of Houston. She lives in Highland with her husband, Mike, her special needs daughter Kayley, and their three dogs. Dr. Tait's presentation was entitled, "History of the Young Women's Organization." She gave an interesting and informative overview of the 150-plus year history of the church's Young Women organization, with a focus on themes of generational crisis, female leadership, retrenchment/engagement, and spirituality. Since Dr. Tait's lecture, the First

Presidency of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has announced changes to age-group names for young women. The purpose of the new names is to "help young women understand their divine place in God's work, to represent their spiritual dignity as His beloved daughters, and to highlight their progression." The new age-group names are the following: **Builders of Faith** (young women turning 12 or 13.) A Builder of Faith helps build God's kingdom through her faith in Christ, steadfast witness, and actions that uplift and encourage others (see Ephesians 2:20). **Messengers of Hope** (young women turning 14 or 15.) A Messenger of Hope carries Christ's message of hope to the weary, speaking peace, sharing comfort, and lifting hearts through the power of the Spirit (see *Mosiah 18:8-9*). **Gatherers of Light** (young women turning 16 or older. A Gatherer of Light trusts divine guidance and draws strength from covenants as she seeks, gathers, and reflects God's light (see *Doctrine and Covenants 50:24*).

CEDAR CITY CHAPTER - Cedar City, Utah



South Rim of Great Basin Monument near Kanarraville

Saturday, April 18th, was chilly, sunny and bright as our chapter headed out on our first trek of the year. Al Matheson led us to several monuments in Iron and Washington counties including the Hamilton Fort DUP monument, Southern Rim of the Great Basin Monument (see photo) near Kanarraville, the New Harmony monument, the San Daniel monument commemorating where the Dominguez and Escalante party camped on October 13, 1776, Jacob Hamblin's home, and several sites along the Santa Clara River including the site of

the pioneer dam and aqueduct near Gunlock. The group ended up in Veyo to sample some of their famous pies. Materials compiled by Al for the trek included the history of the Shivwits band of Paiutes living near the Santa Clara River, the history of early pioneer missions to the Indians and pioneer efforts to control the river with dams and aqueducts, and the history of Pine Valley so that even those who couldn't make the trek were treated to some fascinating historical material.

CENTERVILLE CHAPTER - Centerville, Utah



Jeffrey Tucker

Our March Centerville Utah Chapter meeting included a wonderful St. Patrick's Day dinner prepared by our chapter president's family. We then had our trek chair talk about our trek to Topaz and Fillmore this spring and hiring a bus for our transportation. Our speaker for the evening was Jeffrey Tucker. Jeff is a communications manager for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and he currently serves in the Materials Management Department. He previously worked with the Church History Library and published an article which was his topic for our meeting entitled "The Arsenal Hill Explosion." Jeff asked how many of our group had heard of that before and only one member raised his hand. Jeff told us that the area where the capitol is now located was first referred to as Prospect Hill and later named Arsenal Hill because the hill had five bunkers that stored gun powder. It became a major landmark before the building of the Temple and State Capitol building. The bunkers were located a bit northeast of the hill near City Creek Canyon not far from our present Capitol area.

It was thought that location would be a buffer zone between the bunkers and downtown Salt Lake City. The bunkers held 45 tons of explosive material which would be equal to 32 tons of TNT. On April 5, 1876, the bunkers exploded over a 47-second span. When residents around the valley heard the explosions, some thought it was the end of the world it was so loud, and shock waves were felt as far as 20 miles away. The explosion showered the area with 500 tons of rock including a saloon over a mile away that had a 115-pound boulder break through the ceiling and was buried in the floor. There were 1,000 panes of glass in the Tabernacle that were blown out, and many houses had their windows blown out. There were two teenage boys playing in the area who were killed and also a pregnant woman who was three-quarters a mile away. Many homes and businesses were damaged, and the destruction was so severe that it was reported internationally. Needless to say, that explosion caused rethinking by not only Salt Lake but other cities of where to safely store explosive materials.

COTTON MISSION CHAPTER - St George, Utah



Dave Peterson and Roy Taylor

LDS Church leader, local attorney and former mayor of Ivins, Daren Barney, was our speaker at the April 21 dinner meeting. Daren has a deep interest in history and has been involved in many civic and church activities. Among many Church positions, Daren has served as a stake president, area seventy, and currently serves as a sealer in the St. George Temple. Prior to moving to St. George Daren had a vague knowledge that some of his ancestors were pioneers but was thrilled to find out

some were among the 1861 pioneers who settled St. George. As he began researching, he has become more familiar with many of his pioneer ancestors. Using PowerPoint slides Daren talked about his ancestors, sharing many unique stories about their lives.

Modern Pioneer Awards were presented to David Peterson and Roy Taylor for their many years of service.

EAGLE ROCK CHAPTER - Idaho Falls, Idaho



Larry Cudmore

Recently, we became aware of a not-for-profit organization that has existed amongst us since 2019 – Champs Heart. The founder, Larry Cudmore, was a Pastor who had to retire early from his ministry. See <https://www.champsheart.org/when-life-comes-to-a-crossroads> to learn more about his past. At our regular monthly luncheon He shared with us his story of battling cancer and how his retirement has opened a new chapter in his life. His presentation, along with photos of various participants, touched all who were in attendance. This excerpt from their website introduces what he and an army of volunteers do six days a week, “At Champ's Heart, we believe

in the transformative power of connection – between horses and humans, between hearts and healing, between community and hope. Located in the heart of Idaho Falls, we provide free equine healing experiences for children with special needs, veterans, first responders, and their families.” He charges nothing for this service and depends solely on contributions and donations from people, community, and businesses to service the \$500,000+ annual operating expenses. They work with 300 monthly participants, with 2,200 volunteer hours, 250 volunteers monthly, and have 22 horses ready to serve.

JORDAN RIVER TEMPLE CHAPTER - South Jordan, Utah



Ron and Beverly Bateman

Ron Bateman and his wife, Beverly, are shown in this picture. Our speaker, Ron, wore a bright red shirt, that being the official uniform of the Pony Express rider. Ron began his remarks by quoting the words of Derrick Porter, host of the Tabernacle Choir’s “Music and the Spoken Word” program which aired on March 8, 2026. These words not only helped introduce his presentation but also capture, in essence, the mission and purpose of the National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers: “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.” Ron shared with us the fascinating history of the legendary Pony Express. Ron was born near the Deep Creek Mountains in Utah’s West Desert. In fact, he was raised just a mile south of the home station and thus grew up hearing the stories of the

Pony Express. He reminded us that the Pony Express was a fast, relay-based mail service that operated from April 1860 to October 1861, ending just two days after the transcontinental telegraph was completed. Employing about 80 young (some as young as 14 years of age) athletic riders on horseback, each rider traveled 75-100 miles before passing the mail saddle bag (or mochila) to a new rider. Together, these riders traveled a total of 1,900-plus miles in 10 days (often through blizzards, and at all times of the day,) bridging the east-west communication gap and cutting mail time in half compared to previous stagecoach runs. Utah held a central position in the Pony Express route, hosting 20 stations. Today the route is a National Historic Trail with a BLM gravel road tracking the path across Utah’s West Desert. Despite its relatively short lifespan, the Pony Express has become a lasting symbol of the American Old West, highlighting endurance and the quest for rapid communication.

MAPLE MOUNTAIN CHAPTER - Maple Mountain / Spanish Fork



Wilford W. Clyde

The Maple Mountain Chapter of the Sons of Utah Pioneers enjoyed an outstanding April 2026 meeting featuring a presentation by Wilford Clyde, who shared the remarkable history and growth of one of Utah's most respected family enterprises. Members learned that Clyde Companies was founded in 1926 in Springville, Utah, by Wilford W. Clyde as W.W. Clyde & Co., a heavy civil construction firm specializing in roads, bridges, and essential infrastructure. Beginning with teams of horses and Fresno scrapers, Brother Clyde established a reputation for quality workmanship, honesty, and dependable service—values that became the foundation of the company's enduring success. What began as

a local road-building operation steadily expanded into a major family of businesses serving communities throughout the region. Today, the Clyde organization includes well-known companies such as W.W. Clyde & Co., Geneva Rock Products, Sunroc, Sunpro, Bridgesource, and Beehive Insurance Agency. Those in attendance appreciated learning how pioneer virtues of hard work, integrity, vision, and service helped transform modest beginnings into a lasting legacy. The presentation was both informative and inspiring, reminding us how Utah's pioneer heritage continues to bless future generations through industry, leadership, and community building.

MORGAN PIONEER CHAPTER - Morgan, Utah



Trek to Browning Arms

The meeting of the Morgan, UT chapter of the Sons of the Utah Pioneers was held Monday, April 20, 2026, at the LDS Rock Church. A delicious lunch was provided by Larry's Take Out. Wally Breitenstein, current president of the National Organization was the guest speaker. He made a slide presentation on one of the SUP Pioneer Values entitled "Unyielding Determination." Wally shared examples of some pioneer forefathers who were perfect examples of what it means to never quit, to move on under difficult

circumstances and thus were able to accomplish great things. He challenged all attending to do the same.

Trek: During April members of the Morgan Chapter also enjoyed a "trek" visiting the Browning Arms Museum in Ogden, Utah where they learned about the greatest gun inventor that ever lived, John M. Browning.

MT NEBO CHAPTER - Nephi, Utah



Kraig Steffensen

On March 26, our chapter had its monthly dinner meeting. Our speakers were Kraig and Janet Steffensen who recently served a mission in Adam-ondi-Ahman. Adam-ondi-Ahman is an important historical site of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Missouri. It is also near to other historical sites such as Far West, Haun's Mill, Gallatin, and DeWitt. Adam-ondi-Ahman grew very rapidly as the saints spread out of Caldwell County into surrounding areas. But tensions soon grew, and the city was left abandoned. The church owns a large tract of land in the area of "Diahman," as the Saints used to call it. Couples called to serve in the area are usually based on their experience in work that helps

maintain and develop the properties there. Brother Steffensen's career was in construction and his expertise was instrumental in building and remodeling structures. One of the biggest chores is to keep the grass mowed on the grounds. Almost all the brethren spend a few days a week on riding lawnmowers. Sister Steffensen was involved with family history projects, upkeep of the buildings, and service projects. The Steffensen's related how the citizens of nearby towns, such as Kingston, initially looked upon the church's presence in the area with suspicion. But as the missionaries and the townspeople worked together to improve the town, they became good friends.

MOUNTAIN VALLEY CHAPTER - Heber City, Utah



John Besendorfer

The Mountain Valley Chapter held their Chapter Meeting on April 9, 2026. John Besendorfer from Charleston, Utah, was the guest speaker. John is a member of the Mountain Valley Chapter of the Sons of Utah Pioneers. He is a graduate of Wasatch High School in Heber City and Brigham Young University. John taught elementary school for 33 years. Parallel to his career in education, John remained a steward of the land as a lifelong cattle and dairy farmer. This connection to the past inspired his most ambitious project: the creation of an antique museum in many buildings around his home in Charleston. Driven by a passion for

preservation, John has spent decades collecting artifacts that tell many stories, personally leading thousands of tours for visitors eager to step back in time, sharing stories of early pioneer life and the agricultural heritage of the Heber Valley with all who visit. His museum and his writings serve as an enduring bridge between Utah's pioneer past and its future, ensuring the stories of the Heber Valley are never forgotten. Together with assistance from many of his children, John Besendorfer presented an hour of unique stories, demonstrations with historic artifacts, and showed pictures about the history of Heber Valley.

OGDEN PIONEER CHAPTER - Ogden, Utah



Dr. Ken Alford

During our April Chapter Meeting seven scholarships were awarded for \$1000 each. The scholarship recipients consisted of one student from each of the seven high school seminaries in Weber County. Each of them were introduced by a member of the Scholarship Committee and then they were given a few minutes to share their future plans. Our speaker for the month of April was Brother Kenneth L. Alford, Jr., Professor of Church History and Doctrine at Brigham Young University. His subject was titled, "God's Hand in America's Birth." He talked about George Washington and the Founding Fathers as referred to in both the Book of Mormon and the Doctrine and Covenants, "wise men whom I (the Lord) raised up unto this very purpose." He

also discussed the many miracles that accompanied the Colonies fight for freedom--the numerous weather interventions which aided the Colonials, the importance of the "West Point Chain" in keeping the British fleet from encircling the colonial forces, the provision of cannons for the Colonials, and many other instances where the hand of Divine Providence was manifest in the Colonies struggle against the most powerful military force on earth. He reflected on many of the Founding Father's recognition of Divine Providence in their struggle. Many of the Church leaders have have acknowledged the fact that America came into being to provide a Safe Haven for the Restoration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

PORTER ROCKWELL CHAPTER - Salt Lake City South, Utah



Jennifer Lund

Much has been written about the successes and hardships of missionaries, mostly male, who served during the first century of the Restored Church. However, we know relatively little about the experiences of the wives of those missionaries who remained behind to raise families and maintain households. At our March 25 meeting, Jennifer Lund, a direct descendant of Sarah Peterson Lund (wife of Apostle Anton H. Lund), and author of "We All Must Be Crazy [sic]: The Correspondence of Sarah Peterson Lund to Her Missionary Husband", and Beth Anderson, Jennifer's editor, shared examples from Sarah's letters to her husband during his four missions abroad. With each mission, she raised a growing family of

one to seven children, built a barn, navigated financial challenges and sickness, and kept up her home in Ephraim, Utah. Who could blame her for her occasional frank and colorful expressions of frustration?

Sister Lund is a former Church History Department director and author of numerous articles, reviews, and commentaries and currently serves as vice-chair of the board of trustees of Preservation Utah. Sister Anderson has been an editor of the Journal of Mormon History and is the author of "Cowboy Apostle: The Diaries of Anthony W. Ivins, 1875-1932".

SALT LAKE PIONEER CHAPTER - Downtown Salt Lake City, Utah



Don Savage

When: May 13, 12PM

Location: Thomas S. Monson Center,
411 E. South Temple Street

Cost: \$25 Per Person

Speaker: Don Savage

Topic: Honor thy father and mother." I've been a Life Member of the Sons of the Utah Pioneers since 1984, over 40 years, and I've always appreciated my ancestors. I've decided to do my presentation in three 15 minute segments. First, I'd like to discuss our journeys over the past 10 years to visit and perform an Endowment in 100 Temples. Second, I'd like to review the life of my grandmother's grandfather, pioneer Jesse Wentworth Crosby. (1820-1893) Third, I'll discuss my grandfather's grandfather, pioneer Henry Savage. (1810-1884)

SETTLEMENT CANYON CHAPTER - Tooele, Utah



John W. Rockwell

On April 2nd John W. Rockwell, a descendant of the legendary Orrin Porter Rockwell pleased the Settlement Canyon Chapter with stories and tales of his great-great-grand-father the famous Mormon bodyguard, lawman, and frontier figure, Orin Porter Rockwell. John W. Rockwell is known for co-authoring the book "Stories from the Life of Porter Rockwell" Orin Porter Rockwell was born in what was known as the "Dark Corner" section of Belchertown, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, to Orin and Sarah Witt Rockwell, on June 25, 1813. Orin Rockwell came from Tolland, Connecticut, arriving in Belchertown by 1809, where he married Sarah Witt who was born there. Both were swept up in the religious fervor of the Second Great Awakening. At age 4, in about 1817, Rockwell

moved with his family to western New York's Burned-over district, to Manchester and Palmyra. They became neighbors of the Smith family, who had moved there from Vermont the year before. Rockwell was eight years younger than Smith. While Smith was publishing the Book of Mormon, Rockwell picked berries at night and hauled wood into town to help pay for the publishing. In 1830, at 16 years old, Rockwell was baptized into Smith's Church of Christ in Fayette, New York. Historically, the date of Rockwell's baptism is April 6, the day the church was organized, but original documents suggest a probable date of June 9. Rockwell was the youngest member of the first group to be baptized into the church.

SQUAW PEAK CHAPTER - Provo, Utah



Dan Adams

The Squaw Peak chapter April Dinner Meeting speaker was Dan Adams, chapter president and national area vice president. Dan gave an informative presentation on the early flour mills in Utah County and elsewhere in Utah. Dan's second great grandfather, Arza Matson Adams, built and operated one of the earliest gristmills in Utah after the arrival of the Saints. Arza later built two more gristmills.

Next meeting: May Dinner Meeting. Our next catered chapter dinner meeting will be Tuesday, May 19th, 6:30 p.m., at the Orem Senior Friendship Center.

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

TEMPLE FORK CHAPTER - Logan, Utah



Brad Bowen

This month our guest speaker was Gary Bowen. As a Missionary to western Mexico in the early 60's he heard of writings and stories that indicated that Christianity existed in Mexico long before modern history would have us believe.

Mr. Bowen spent much of his life's work in the pursuit of this belief. He is the author of several books including one titled "Christianity in the Americas before Columbus." This was a fascinating discussion.

TIMPANOGOS CHAPTER - American Fork, Utah



Bruce Stewart

A highlight of the April Timpanogos Chapter meeting was the presentation by Brother Bruce Stewart, National Sons of Utah Pioneers Librarian, titled "Pioneering to Adam-ondi-Ahman." His message traced a sacred thread from Adam to the present day. He offered a compelling reminder that the Lord's purposes span generations and are still moving forward. Brother Stewart drew upon scripture, historical accounts, and teachings from Church leaders, including Joseph Smith, Brigham Young, and Apostle Bruce R. McConkie. He illuminated the significance of Adam-ondi-Ahman as a divinely appointed place established "from the foundation of the world." He described its role not only in ancient times, but also in the

Restoration and in future events yet to unfold. Central to his message was the doctrine that this sacred location will host a grand council prior to the Savior's Second Coming, where priesthood keys will be returned and faithful Saints from all dispensations will gather. Those in attendance came away with a renewed sense of awe and perspective. The presentation reinforced that the story of the pioneers is not confined to the past but is part of a continuing work that reaches forward into prophecy and fulfillment. As modern-day pioneers, we too are participants in that unfolding story. We are each preparing, gathering, and looking ahead with faith to the promises the Lord has yet to bring to pass.



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