

Trail Marker

VOLUME 21 PIONEERING TOMORROW YESTERDAY, TODAY & ISSUE 243 NUMBER 11

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As November begins, the autumn foliage is already diminishing here in Utah, and snow is now visible on the mountain peaks. I hope that you are embracing the transition into the winter season wherever you are.

The Sons of Utah Pioneers is currently undergoing its own annual transition period, during which several National and Chapter leadership positions are being reassigned. October and November are usually a busy time

for SUP as AVPs and Chapter leadership are trained in several sessions. Other training opportunities will also occur throughout this coming year as we coach Chapter Board members in their respective directorship responsibilities. These training sessions are designed to ease the responsibilities for incoming leaders, and to provide a platform for experienced SUP leaders to share their achievements. They not only offer valuable benefits to our leadership but also make a substantial contribution to all SUP members, improving quality and efficiency across both National and Chapter levels.

As SUP National President, I aim to refine communication between the National Office and Chapters, support leadership training and growth, and encourage all Chapter members to be actively engaged with your respective Chapters. Supporting SUP leaders at every level contributes to the growth of our Chapters and the overall success of the SUP organization. This support also reinforces the value of membership within this respected institution.

We should acknowledge and appreciate the positive changes occurring around us, whether it be a new season of the year, changes within our own personal lives, or changes within the Sons of Utah Pioneers. Thoughtful acceptance and adaptation to change in all those areas lead to worthwhile outcomes.

Here's wishing you a pleasant Thanksgiving season! I encourage you to reflect on all that you have to be grateful for - throughout this coming year!

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

SAMUEL JONES ROLFE "HEALED IN THE TEMPLE FONT"

An extract from the revelation of January 19, 1841, concerning building a Baptismal Font:

There is not a place found on earth that he may come and restore again that which was lost unto you, or, which he hath taken away, even the fullness of the Priesthood; for a baptismal font there is not upon the earth; that they, my Saints, may be baptized for those who are dead; for this ordinance belongeth to my house and cannot be acceptable to me, only in the days of your poverty, wherein ye are not able to build a house unto me. But I command you, all ye my Saints, to build a house unto me; and I grant unto you a sufficient time to build a house unto me, and during this time your baptisms shall be acceptable unto me.

In conformity with the foregoing item of law, in the summer and fall of the year 1841, the brethren entered into measures to build a baptismal font, on the cellar floor of the Temple near the east end. Brother William Weeks, the architect, drew a draught which was accepted by President Joseph and on the 18th of August of the same year, Brother Weeks commenced to labor on it with his own hands; he labored some days on it and then committed the work to the carpenters. On the 11th of August, Brother Weeks commenced carving the oxen, twelve in number, on which the font was to stand. After carving six days he committed this branch to Brother Elijah Fordham, the principal carver, who continued till they were finished, which was in about two months after the commencement. On the 8th day of November, 1841, the font was dedicated by President Joseph Smith at 5 o'clock in the evening. After dedication, Brother



Reuben McBride was the first person baptized under the direction of the President. He was baptized by President Brigham Young. Brother Samuel Rolfe, being present, and being seriously afflicted with a felon on one hand, President Joseph instructed him to wash in the font, and told him he would be healed, although the doctors had told him it would not be well before spring, and advised him to have it cut. He washed his hands in the font and in one week

afterwards his hand was perfectly healed. After this time, baptisms were continued in the font and many realized great blessings, both spiritually and bodily.¹

On January 19, 1841, the Prophet Joseph Smith received a revelation calling Samuel to preside over the Priests Quorum in Nauvoo. (DC 124:142).

In February 1844, when Joseph Smith was seeking volunteers for an exploring expedition to California and Oregon, Samuel was numbered among the first to submit his name. None of the volunteers ended up going on the expedition due to events that led to the martyrdom of the Prophet Joseph and Hyrum.

On November 12, 1845, Samuel was ordained a high priest. Within weeks of his ordination, he fled from religious bigotry in Nauvoo across the Mississippi River to Iowa and then on to Winter Quarters. He served as a bishop in Winter Quarters from 1846-47 before being appointed a captain in the Abraham O. Smoot Company heading west.

Four years later, he fulfilled his commitment to the Prophet Joseph Smith under the new leadership of Brigham Young and moved on to the Latter-day Saint settlement of San Bernardino, California. Before returning to Utah, he was elected a county treasurer in San Bernardino and served in a stake presidency in Los Angeles. Samuel died in July 1867 in Lehi, Utah, at age seventy-two.²

1 - William Clayton Journal, in JI 21(4):60, 15 Feb., 1886)

2 - Susan Easton Black, Doctrine & Covenants Central

Monument Trek



Parley P. Pratt Burial Site

5501-5925 HWY 282 LINK, ALMA, AR | 35.541995197473064, -94.22597054863802

In 1856, Apostle Parley P. Pratt left on a mission to the eastern and southern states, where he had great success, despite the immense persecution and opposition to missionaries. One particular convert, Eleanor McLean, joined the Church with several of her children and left her abusive husband, Hector McLean, to go West. Although the couple never divorced, Hector blamed Pratt for the separation.

Hector accused Pratt of stealing his wife and assisting in the kidnapping of his children. Pratt managed to evade him for a time but was eventually arrested. He was later acquitted for lack of evidence, largely based on Eleanor's own written testimony. Pratt was secretly released and, believing the danger had passed, quietly rode out of town.

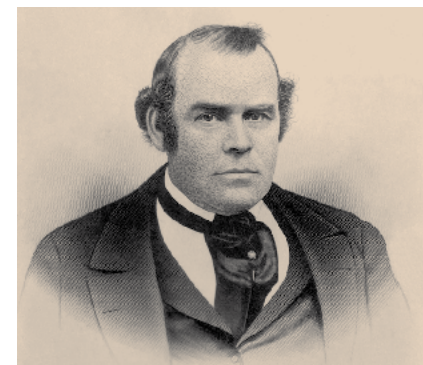
A few miles outside of town, on a hillside overlooking the valley, two pursuers overtook him. The leader, Hector McLean, began shooting as he galloped through the brush. When he ran out of bullets, he seized his companion's gun and fired again. Although bullet holes pierced Pratt's hat, coat, and sleeve, he was not hit. McLean then rode up alongside Pratt, struck him with a dirk knife, and knocked him from his horse. As Pratt lay dying, McLean stabbed him several more times.

A nearby farmer, Zealey Wynn, and a blacksmith, John Steward, carried the wounded man to Wynn's home and tended to him. When they asked what had provoked the attack, Pratt replied, "He accused me of taking his wife and children. I did not do it. They were oppressed, and I did for them what I would do for the oppressed anywhere." His reported last words were, "I am dying a martyr to the faith."

At Wynn's sawmill, a coffin was made and loaded into an ox-drawn cart. Pratt was taken about a mile northeast to the community burial grounds, where Wynn spoke a few words of respect at a brief funeral held in a nearby log building that served as both a schoolhouse and a church.

Over the years, the one-acre cemetery changed ownership several times, and cultivation destroyed many of the graves. However, Parley's plot and sandstone marker remained untouched. The Pratt family later purchased the cemetery and raised funds for a large, ornate monument that stands there today.

In 2008, the Pratt family received permission from an Arkansas judge to rebury his remains in the Salt Lake City Cemetery, in accordance with Parley's own wishes. However, no human remains were found at the site believed to be his grave, and no further search efforts have been planned.



CHIEF 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 ANNUAL MEMBERS

Brad DeeOgden Pioneer
David Pearce WorldWide Pioneer
Frank LeRoy WilliamsOgden Pioneer
George Pitts Mountain Valley
John E Gilpin Pocatello (Portneuf Pioneers)
Kent Broadbent Centerville
Marvin Rust Mountain Valley
Norman J Davis Mesa
Rafael Rivera Pocatello (Portneuf Pioneers)
Ralph Dammann Murray
Randy Webster Cotton Mission

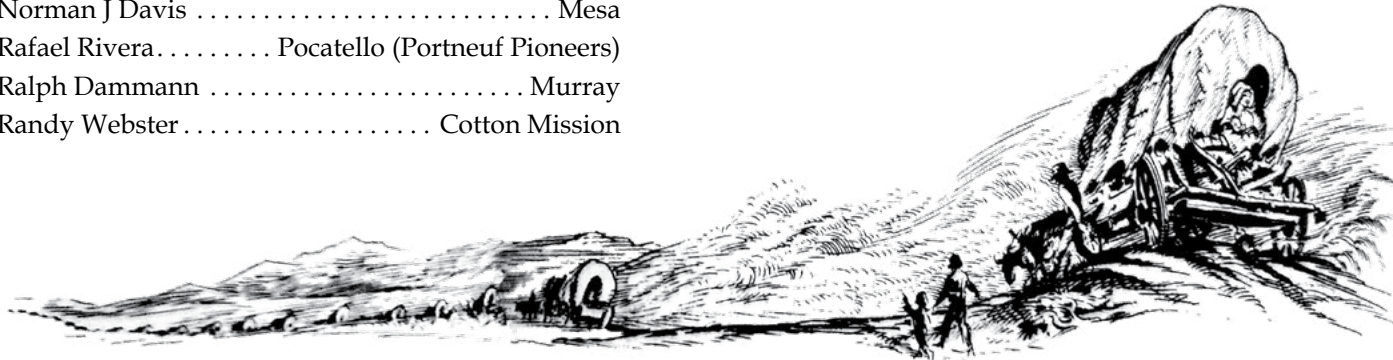
NAMECHAPTER

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Mark B Cox Cedar City

LIFE ETERNAL

Neil Miller Grove City
David Mower Sevier Valley
Russell M Nelson WorldWide Pioneer
Willmer Hanks Thompson Mills



FOR UPCOMING SUP NATIONAL EVENTS, CLICK HERE

BOULDER DAM CHAPTER - Boulder City / Las Vegas, Nevada



Walking Box Ranch

For the month of October, the Boulder Dam Chapter did a trek to the Walking Box Ranch and to the town of Goff, California. The Walking Box Ranch is near Searchlight, Nevada. It was established by silent screen actors Rex Bell and Clara Bow. It operated from 1930 to 1940 as a retreat, mainly for Hollywood actors to escape to a less hectic pace and an opportunity to find peace and quiet. It is now owned by the Bureau of Land

Management and is listed on the Nation's Register for Historical Places. We also visited Goff, a town on the famous Route 66 near Needles, California. The town of Goff was a railroad town with a few mining operations and is now nearly empty. There are still many mining and desert artifacts in Goff to entertain visitors. Even in the vast Mojave Desert, there are many historical sites to visit.

BRIGHAM YOUNG CHAPTER - Provo, Utah



Matt Grow

Dr. Matthew J. Grow was our speaker for the October 23rd meeting. He is the Managing Director of the Church History Department. In this capacity, he leads a team of history professionals and missionaries who collect documents and artifacts, preserve them, and promote understanding of the Church's past through a publishing program, a research library, a museum and many historical sites. Grow also served as a general editor of the Joseph Smith Papers and Saints: The Story of the Church of Jesus Christ in the Latter Days. Grow provided an interesting and informative presentation regarding the Council of Fifty. This group was organized in 1844 by Joseph Smith and made up mostly of members of the church, but some non-members, too. They deliberated how to establish a political kingdom or government in preparation for the millennial reign of Jesus Christ. They also assisted in Joseph Smith's 1844 campaign for President of the United States. Additionally, they discussed proposed settlements outside the United States, such as Oregon, Texas, and California. After the death of Joseph Smith, Brigham Young reconvened the group in 1845 and early 1846. Their focus was regarding the governing of Nauvoo, building relations with American Indians, and to prepare for the exodus to the West. In Utah, the council met between the late 1840s and 1860s. John Taylor reorganized the council in 1880, but it was discontinued by the end of the decade. William Clayton was the recorder for the minutes. Before Joseph Smith died, he told Clayton to burn or bury the minutes. He buried them and dug them up and preserved them after Smith died.

For many years access to the minutes were not available. For some reason it was thought they contained secret information. Now that they have been made available, they have added documentation to the history of the Church, but nothing that reflects badly on the Church.

TREK: On October 16th about forty-chapter members and guests boarded a bus in Provo and headed south on Interstate I-15. During the journey our knowledgeable tour leader, John Beck, provided the group with historical and current information about the various communities we passed along the way like Rocky Ridge, Mona, Nephi and others. The first stop was at the Pioneer Cemetery in Scipio, where we visited the grave of Artemus Millet who oversaw the construction of the Kirtland Temple. Continuing south we reached the LDS Tabernacle in Richfield. Here we ate our lunch while Dennis Larsen, a long-term resident of Richfield and local SUP leader provided information about the history of the area. Moving into the main chapel Sherrie Johnson spoke about her great grandfather, Robert Dixon Young. At one time he served as Stake President and President of the Manti Temple at the same time. She provided additional historical information. Afterward we traveled through Fremont Indian State Park with all its beautiful rock formation and fall colors to Cove Fort where an informative movie and tour was provided. Traveling back to Provo we passed through Kanosh and Meadow where we learned more about Chief Kanosh and the area. The trek was immensely enjoyed by all who attended.

CEDAR CITY CHAPTER - Cedar City, Utah



New Chapter Board

On Saturday, October 25th, we held our annual Bread and Milk Supper. Activities included: introducing two of our outstanding scholarship recipients from Cedar High School, Millie Jenkins and Kaitlin Bullock; a pioneer minute on the settlement of St. Joseph, Arizona, by Burke Hamilton; the awarding of this year's Modern Day Pioneer recognition to

Janet Seegmiller, a local historian, librarian and teacher for many years; the swearing in of the new Cedar City Chapter board by Wayne Hinton with Eric Tait taking over as our new president this year; entertainment by the acapella singing group Sidenote; and a potluck dinner featuring a wide variety of soups, salads, dessert and bread and milk. This was also our

CENTERVILLE CHAPTER - Centerville, Utah



Scott and Kristin Lieber

Our October Centerville Utah Chapter speakers for the evening were Scott and Kristin Lieber who talked about experiences they had in the Palau Mission during 2025. Brother Lieber had served there as a young missionary over 41 years ago. They returned to his mission as Senior MLS missionaries, and they spent the evening talking about the marvelous time he had as a young missionary and then the experiences they both recently shared there. He kept detailed missionary journals which proved to be a great blessing as they returned. When young Elder Lieber served there, only two elders and a few sister missionaries were assigned to serve there, and Palau had only been a mission for four years. Guam was the mission headquarters, and he only saw his mission president once during his time there because the mission area was so large with hundreds of islands. As he and his companion were trying to make friends with the locals they taught, they started a Boy Scout troop with the youth and taught them how to play basketball. While there, he visited a boy name Toby who was

serving time in prison. They ministered to him and gave him a Book of Mormon and gave him a blessing. Toby became a well-known wood carver; he spread the gospel with his beautiful depictions of spiritual messages. On his last day as a young missionary there, a vehicle with three people aboard crashed into the river he was driving by. He rescued a little girl from the river and gave her CPR before she was taken to the local hospital. When Elder and Sister Lieber served in that same area this year, they were excited to meet with people he had known including some of his former scouts. During one of their meetings in Palau, they found out that the girl he had saved from the river 41 years ago was working in the same building where their meeting was being held. She was brought into their meeting and what a reunion that was! This story is now part of a YouTube video called "Celestial Collisions in Palau" which can be watched. It was an amazing chapter meeting, and the Liebers bore a strong testimony of the gospel and the importance of keeping journals.

COTTON MISSION CHAPTER - St George, Utah



TC Christensen

We were pleased to have filmmaker T.C. Christensen speak to us at our Monday October 13 dinner meeting. In his lively and uplifting way, he had us on the edge of our seats with intriguing stories about his many films. He discussed and showed movie clips from several of his movies including his latest film, "Raising the Bar: The Alma Richards Story." As a director and/or a director of photography, T.C. Christensen has

been behind the camera for many films including the wildly popular *Escape From Germany*, *Love, Kennedy*; *Ephraim's Rescue*; *17 Miracles*; *The Cokeville Miracle*; and *The Fighting Preacher*. Mr. Christensen is also a creative force behind the films *Roving Mars* (an IMAX film for Disney); *Lewis & Clark and Sea Monsters*, (both are IMAX films for National Geographic); and the recently released *Escape from Germany*.

EAGLE ROCK CHAPTER - Idaho Falls, Idaho



Adam Finehout

Our presenter for October was Mountain Man Adam Finehout. He has studied the heritage of Mountain Men since the early days of this nation. How they lived, and the tools they used. Adam brought with him furs, early coins, traps, arrowheads, knife, tomahawk, period dress, possibles bag, and much more that he passed around for us to see and handle. His long bow was made by a member of a tribe in the eastern states.

He demonstrated how to string it for use. Unfortunately, he was not able to bring and show his Hawkins black powder rifle into the facility so a picture had to suffice. He described living conditions, the things mountain men did, and as much history as time would allow. Lynn Bradshaw then presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation for presenting, a copy of the Pioneer Magazine, and an SUP Coin minted for Idaho.

HURRICANE CHAPTER - Hurricane, Utah



Gifford Neilson

September's Activities: On the 13th our chapter made a trek to Fort Harmony and other places. Here are our Past President Brian W. Hinton's comments on it. We went on a Sons of Utah Pioneer Trek today, it was great! David Isom and Leon Gubler did an awesome job organizing it. We started at FORT HARMONY; my Cousin Wayne Kendall Hinton talked to us and really enlightened us. Then, after that we drove to the Frehner Wildlife Museum. That was cool too. I didn't know it was even there. Afterwards we made our way up over the hill to PAGE RANCH where Kendall talked to us again. Very cool place. Our next stop was in PINTO UTAH where we had sack lunches and Dutch oven Peach cobbler at Wes and Kathy Christensen's property. Then, we wandered over to MOUNTAIN MEADOW MEMORIAL. Kendall talked to us again and gave us some great info on this sacred place. It's cool how we fly the AMERICAN FLAG and the ARKANSAS FLAG to honor those people that died there. If anyone wants to listen to what we learned from Cousin Kendall Hinton it's recorded on our Hurricane Valley Chapter SUP Facebook page thanks to Brad Winder.

The National Encampment in Ogden was held from the 18th through the 20th.

October 24th Activity: we met at the Old South Ward Chapel for a marvelous pot-luck dinner, and had the privilege of listening to Elder Gifford Neilson, an Emeritus member of the Quorum of the Seventy, and a famous quarterback for the BYU Cougars who also played in the NFL for a few years. His last assignment as a member of the 70 was to serve in the Ghana, Africa area of the world. His report included some of his time in football but was largely about the very special time he spent in Africa, and the incredible growth of the Church there. He also took time to bear his witness of the prophetic mantle placed upon the head of President Nelson and gave us an insight of what it was like to be with him on a regular basis!

October 22nd Activity: We will be privileged to have Jim Lemmon come to speak to us. He is a former Hurricane Stake President, Mission President, and currently serves as a Patriarch and Sealer in the Red Cliff's Utah Temple. He was born and raised here in Hurricane.

JORDAN RIVER TEMPLE CHAPTER - South Jordan, Utah



Jim Ritchey

Our speaker this evening was Jim Ritchey. He is an engineer by profession and oversaw the complete renovation of the Tabernacle a few years ago. At the time, President Gordon B. Hinckley of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints asked him to please retain the pioneer era look of the Tabernacle as much as possible. Upon excavation, it was discovered much of the Tabernacle did not sit upon a suitable foundation. So, the contractors had to dig down to make room for very large concrete foundations to be placed to support the building. Also during this renovation, a large underground tunnel was discovered that surrounds the Tabernacle and put in place during the original construction. This tunnel proved to be a wonderful place to install the cables and electrical and other utilities and technological pieces to be used in the renovated

Tabernacle. In the Southwest corner of the Tabernacle at one time there was a Baptistry. It served many of the congregations in the Salt Lake valley because at the time of the construction of their meeting houses, they did not include a Baptistry. Many attending this gathering made the comment they had done baptisms at the Tabernacle in their younger years.

Sadly, we report that this is the last presentation Brother Ritchey is planning on doing for groups like ours. We were fortunate to hear from him on this night. We thank him for his very outstanding presentation accompanied by his many historic pictures taken during the renovation and illustrating the details of the original construction techniques used by the pioneers.

MAPLE MOUNTAIN CHAPTER - Maple Mountain / Spanish Fork



Case Lawrence

Our September Dinner/Presentation featured Case Lawrence the newly appointed Chairman and director of the "This is the Place Foundation and Heritage Park." The non-profit Park encompasses five hundred acres and is governed by a board of ten and two hundred foundation members. His presentation included a brief history of the Monument erected to Honor Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball and Wilford Woodruff and what was available at Heritage Park. Mahonri M. Young

designed the park and the monument. Many other monuments honoring pioneers, early explorers, trappers, traders, pony express, which continues to evolve as more are added. There are shops, cafés, games, demonstrations, site for weddings and other family-friendly venues. Our chapter appreciated Brother Lawrence's presentation and he urged us to come and see for ourselves.

MESA ARIZONA CHAPTER - Mesa, Arizona



David Lamoreaux

The Mesa Arizona Chapter gathered on Thursday, October 9th for our 2nd Thursday of the month "Potluck & Presentation!" We met again at our new location, a condo clubhouse in the Chapter President's community. Our presenters this month was David Lamoreaux, Cowboy Poet! David attended with his wife Lisa. After our announcements,

patriotic moment, Pledge of Allegiance and Star-Spangled Banner, David shared cowboy poetry written by his grandfather and written by himself. Much of the poetry features northern Utah farming history and was very well received by those in attendance.

MORGAN PIONEER CHAPTER - Morgan, Utah



Chad Mortenson

On Monday, October 20, the Morgan Chapter of the Sons of the Utah Pioneers held their monthly luncheon at the Rock Chapel in Morgan. The well attended gathering was catered again by Larry's Spring Chicken Inn. After the delicious meal the chapter's President, Gene Allred presented the "Pioneer Minute". He related the life and accomplishments of his 3rd great grandfather, Sixtus Ellis Johnson, an early pioneer and experienced settler, assigned by Brigham Young to establish new settlements throughout the southwest, ultimately establishing and living in Mormon communities

in Mexico. The main presenter for the gathering was Chad Mortenson, a cemetery enthusiast and professional tour guide. Chad specializing in the Salt Lake City Cemetery, the largest municipal Cemetery in the United States. Chad grew up in Sandy however his father, Barry Mortenson, is a native of Morgan County, growing up in Porterville. Chad related stories of his ancestors and other well-known church leaders and pioneers. He discussed stories about the final burial sites of past Church Presidents, including President Nelson. His love for history and especially that found in the cemeteries of Utah was

MOUNTAIN VALLEY CHAPTER - Heber City, Utah



Dr Brian Cannon

On October 9, 2025, the Mountain Valley Chapter held their monthly Speaker's Forum. During the meeting, Dan Adams, AVP installed new Chapter Officers. A new monument to replace the Tom Tabby Gravesite Monument is scheduled to be dedicated in the Heber City Cemetery on November 8, 2025. Dr. Brian Q. Cannon, BYU Department of History Chairman, was the guest speaker. Dr. Cannon has a BA in American Studies from BYU, a MA in History from Utah State University and

a PhD in History from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Brian gave an amazing presentation about Native American Children who lived in Latter-day Saint Pioneer Households between 1850-1870. Were they Adopted or Indentured Servants? He presented fascinating pictures and personal stories about many Native American children which were mostly unknown to the public.

OGDEN PIONEER CHAPTER - Ogden, Utah



SUP Historical Marker

The Ogden Pioneer Chapter October meeting was pleased to have Mark E. Walker honored as a 21st Century Pioneer. Mark shared his life history. Mark Walker was invited by Stewart Radmall in turning the research of all the monuments of the SUP into a book with pictures, descriptions, and locations. This also led Mark to join the SUP. he most recent versions of the book have been

expanded to include corrected titles of monuments and plaques, locations including street address or directions in rural area, GPS location in two formats, and transcribed plaque or monument inscriptions. The Master List identifies nearly 480 monuments. Some monument locations are not known due to the monument or plaque being destroyed or lost, moved to an unknown location, or ownership retired to another organization.

PORTER ROCKWELL CHAPTER - Salt Lake City South, Utah



Fielding Garr Ranch

Summer is “fun time” for the Porter Rockwell Chapter. This summer, we trekked to Antelope Island. Only recently becoming a Utah State Park, the island was once home to the Fielding, Frary, Stringham, Dooly, Walker, and Anschutz families. Several springs provide fresh water for the desert and salty landscape. Over the years, its residents and the Church of Jesus Christ of

Latter-day Saints have raised sheep, horses, and other cattle; but today Antelope Island is mostly known for its American Bison, or Buffalo. We were blessed to see a large herd of around 150 basking on the east shoreline. After visiting the Fielding Garr ranch, we feasted on real Buffalo Burgers – very tasty.

PORTNEUF CHAPTER - Pocatello, Idaho



Clark B. Hinckley

The Portneuf Pioneers chapter of the Sons of the Utah Pioneers (SUP) hosted Clark B. Hinckley with an evening of dining and instruction concerning research about Christopher Columbus on the evening of Thursday September 25, 2025. About 80 individuals including 24 chapter members and ten members from the Blackfoot, Grove City, SUP chapter attended. Clark B. Hinckley earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Brigham Young University and a master's degree in business administration from the Harvard Business School. Clark's parents are Gordon B. Hinckley and Marjorie Pay Hinckley. Clark is a banker by vocation and a historian by avocation. He is the author of *Christopher Columbus: A Man Among the Gentiles*. He and his wife, Kathleen, have six children and twenty-four grandchildren.

This candid and revealing look at the life of Christopher Columbus showed us a man with a great dream. Clark described from researching the journals that Christopher Columbus felt inspired by the Holy Ghost to search for a water path to China, India and the spice islands of Asia. Hinckley

argues that Columbus was a deeply religious man driven by a profound spiritual calling. Clark mentions a prophecy in the Book of Mormon, which Hinckley cites as a framework for understanding Columbus's role in the Restoration. Hinckley highlights Columbus's own writings, particularly his Book of Prophecies, where Columbus claims he was inspired by the Holy Ghost to undertake his voyage. Clark describes negative portrayals in the modern world including the removal of various statues of Columbus during recent riots in various large cities in the United States. Hinckley acknowledges modern criticisms of Columbus but argues that some depictions have become distorted by current political correctness. Hinckley included discussion into Columbus's inner thoughts and spiritual conviction, providing insight into his motivations beyond the pursuit of wealth or fame. Hinckley described Columbus's early life, his persistent struggles to secure funding for his voyage, and the subsequent journeys. Clark shared an exciting expose of Columbus, his life and his mission. The presentation may be praised for being well-researched, factual, and inspiring.

SALT LAKE PIONEER CHAPTER - Downtown Salt Lake City, Utah



Elder and Sister Pool

When: November 12 at 12pm

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

Cost: \$25 Per Person

Speakers: Elder & Sister Poole

Service missionaries assigned to BYU-Pathway Worldwide since December 2020. Currently serving as zone leaders for Utah Zone 3. BYU-Pathway Worldwide is blessing and changing the world one student at a time, lifting people out of poverty in Africa. BYU-Pathway is also blessing non-traditional students here in Utah. Many are first generation college students, single parents, cannot afford a campus education, or students who did not do well in school when they were young. It is so refreshing to hear them exclaim, "I've never had an A before!" Their fixed mindsets are altered by including Heavenly Father in their studies.

SETTLEMENT CANYON CHAPTER - Tooele, Utah



Brent Rogers

In this never-before-told history of *Buffalo Bill and the Mormons*, Brent M. Rogers presents the intersections in the epic histories of William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody and the Latter-day Saints from 1846 through 1917. In Cody's autobiography he claimed to have been a member of the U.S. Army wagon train that was burned by the Saints during the Utah War of 1857-58. Less than twenty years later he began his stage career and gained notoriety by performing anti-Mormon dramas. By early 1900 he actively recruited Latter-day Saints to help build infrastructure and encourage growth in the region surrounding his town of Cody, Wyoming. In his book Rogers unravels this history and the fascinating trajectory that took America's most

famous celebrity from foe to friend of the Latter-day Saints. In doing so, the book demonstrates how the evolving relationship between Cody and the Latter-day Saints can help readers better understand the political and cultural perceptions of Mormons and the American West. Brent M. Rogers is a historian and the managing historian for the Joseph Smith Papers. He is the author of *Unpopular Sovereignty: Mormons and the Federal Management of Early Utah Territory* (Nebraska, 2017), winner of the 2018 Charles Redd Center Phi Alpha

Theta Book Award for the Best Book on the American West, and the co-editor of *Contingent Shifting Perceptions of Latter-day Saints in American Political Culture*.

TAYLORSVILLE-BENNION CHAPTER - Taylorsville, Utah



John Longhurst

The Taylorsville-Bennion Chapter October Chapter meeting was a very enjoyable one. We had the privilege of having John Longhurst speak to us about the Organs of Temple Square. John was an organist at Temple Square for thirty years (1977-2007) and was actively involved in the selection and installation of the grand organ in the Conference Center. He related the story of Joseph Ridges who built the first Temple Square organ. Since retirement, John has written *Magnum Opus*, a book

documenting the design and building of the Schoenstein & Co. Organ in the Conference Center and an unpublished monograph on the early life of Joseph Ridges, builder of the original Salt Lake Tabernacle organ. We also had the opportunity of listening from one of our members, Russ Davey. He told us about his Great-Great Grandfather Isaac Russell. Isaac was one of first missionaries that was sent to England. It was a great presentation.

TEMPLE FORK CHAPTER - Logan, Utah



Bobby Pitcher

Greetings from Cache Valley. The Temple Fork Chapter had an active and exciting month in October. Early in the month we did fall monument maintenance on several SUP monuments located in the south end of Cache Valley and in Logan canyon. All who attended had a great time. Our monthly dinner meeting was held at the Logan Country Club where our speaker was

Bobby Pitcher. Bobby is a firefighter for Unified Fire Department in Salt Lake County and a member of the Emerald Bag Pipe Band. Following his family history, he played several selections on the bag pipes. It was a great evening.

TIMPANOGOS CHAPTER - American Fork, Utah



Dr. Casey Griffiths

This month, we were treated to an engaging discussion on "The History of the Doctrine and Covenants" by Dr. Casey Griffiths. He opened his presentation with a fascinating question: "How many Christian churches trace their origins to the Prophet Joseph Smith?" The surprising answer was 452. He compared several of these movements by size and belief, noting that while The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints now has over 17 million members, one small branch of the 452 churches has only eight members. This led into his central question: What is scripture? He referenced Doctrine and Covenants 68:4, which teaches that words spoken by the Holy Ghost are the "will, mind, word, and voice of the Lord," while explaining that canonized scripture keeps doctrine unified. Joseph Smith's teachings about The Song of Solomon and the Apocrypha illustrated how revelation can be inspired but not necessarily canonized. Dr. Griffiths then outlined how revelations in the Doctrine and Covenants were received: through angels, instruments like the Urim and Thummim, visions, and inspired dictation often witnessed by others. He shared Parley P. Pratt's account of Joseph Smith's precise,

unhesitating manner as he dictated revelation. Griffiths also described the Joseph Smith Papers Project and the careful preservation of early texts, including the heroic story of Mary Elizabeth Rollins Lightner and her sister Caroline, who saved pages of The Book of Commandments from a mob in 1833. Later editions in 1835, 1844, 1876, 1921, 1981, and 2013 added sections, removed the Lectures on Faith, introduced footnotes, and refined context through modern research. He concluded by noting that the Doctrine and Covenants is unique: the only modern book of scripture, written in English, without a storyline, and spoken almost entirely in the voice of Jesus Christ. Quoting Ezra Taft Benson, he reminded listeners that each revelation was an answer to a specific question. Comparing the scriptures, President Benson said the Book of Mormon is the keystone of faith, while the Doctrine and Covenants is the capstone, teaching consecration, sacrifice, and discipleship. "It isn't finished," he said. "It's still being written." His final plea: "Don't throw stuff away before you know what it is. In 100 years, your story could inspire