

Trail Marker

VOLUME 21 PIONEERING YESTERDAY, TODAY & TOMORROW NUMBER 10
ISSUE 242

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It is October! Already! Where have the months gone? In just over two more months, the year 2025 will be regarded as history. However, the transition into history does not necessarily carry a negative aspect. After all, our lives are grounded in history—a foundational element that enables us to progress wisely towards the future.

We, as members of the Sons of Utah Pioneers, know very well that our pioneer history has greatly impacted us for the good. The elements of that historical impact began long before we were born. There are certainly pioneer values to be learned from hearing and reading about our pioneer ancestors, whether they be our own or someone else's. Some of the primary reasons for our membership in this esteemed SUP organization is to gain insight into the aspects of pioneer history, to acknowledge and commemorate them, and to facilitate the sharing of related stories with other SUP members.

SUP members are at the heart of this great organization. We "... honor the pioneers for their faith in God; devotion to family; loyalty to church and country; hard work and service to others; courage in adversity; personal integrity; and unyielding determination."

It is my hope that we will continue to be valued SUP members and to be a means to pass on the pioneer values mentioned above. If you have pioneer stories, and you have not shared them yet, please share them. You have the opportunity to do so within your own Chapter, as well as throughout the entire SUP. If you are not familiar with your pioneer history, the National office has a wonderful collection of pioneer history in their library. Do not hesitate to use that resource, one of many resources that National SUP provides in order to support Chapters and their members. Who knows! Your pioneer ancestor's name just may be found there.

I want to thank the Ogden Pioneer Chapter for hosting the National Encampment that just took place in September. It is evident

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that hard work was put into its planning. The event was outstanding! I have only heard very positive comments about the event. Thanks go out to all Encampment planners and the many attendees. I hope that we will look forward to our next Encampment in 2026. It will be hosted by the Portneuf Pioneer and Grove City Chapters in Idaho. These encampments are a great opportunity to learn more of our pioneer history – people, places, and events - particularly as relates to the area of the Encampment .

I am humbled to be your National SUP President this coming year. As we look at the coming year, and beyond, let's remember that our collective efforts, inspired by the unwavering spirit of the pioneers, shape the very legacy we hand to the next generation. Every meeting, every event, and every heartfelt conversation between SUP members contributes another thread to the rich tapestry of the Sons of Utah Pioneers. It is through unity, service, and our commitment to honoring the past that we build an organization not only worthy of our forebears, but also an organization strengthened for our current and future membership.

I and all of the other National leaders want to assist you and your Chapters to be successful. We want to make decisions for your cause. However, we do not want to just “rubber stamp” every decision. As much as possible, we want to hear from you, the SUP member, before decisions are made. You are important! You can help shape National decisions. We are all making history together!

May the principles of faith, family, loyalty, courage, and other pioneer values continue to burn brightly in your hearts this coming SUP year!



Wally Breitenstein Sr. | 2026 National SUP President



OCT 11 NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS CLEAN-UP DAY

FOR THE FULL SUP LIST OF UPCOMING EVENTS [CLICK HERE](#)

NATIONAL NEWS

2025 NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT - OGDEN



Fort Buenaventura



Off-Road Trek



Peery's Egyptian Theater



Ogden Tabernacle



Ogden Memorial Gardens



Promontory Point



Lagoon Pioneer Village



Lagoon Pioneer Village



Business Meeting



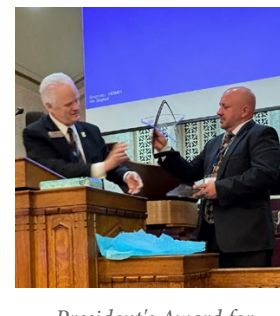
Jenny Taylor Fireside



Membership Meeting



Encampment Stewardship



*President's Award for
Meritorious Service*



2025 / 2026 Executive Council



PIONEER STORIES

"GOD GRANT US FAITH"

BY PRESIDENT GORDON B. HINCKLEY



Ira Hinckley



Cove Fort



Gordon B. Hinckley

My grandfather [Ira Hinckley] was baptized in Nauvoo and ... subsequently crossed the plains in the migration of [the pioneers].” During that journey in 1850, Ira’s “young wife and his [half brother] both died on the same day. He made rough coffins and buried them and picked up his infant child and carried her to [the Salt Lake] valley.

At the request of Brigham Young he built Cove Fort, was the first president of the stake in Fillmore, [Utah,] and did a thousand other things to move this work forward.

Then came my father. ... He became president of the largest stake in the Church with more than 15,000 members. ...

Reflecting on the lives of these three men while I was seated in the temple, I looked down at my daughter, at her daughter, who is my grandchild, and at her children, my great-grandchildren. I suddenly realized that I stood right in the middle of these seven generations—three before me and three after me.

In that sacred and hallowed house there passed through my mind a sense of the tremendous obligation that was mine to pass on all that I had

received as an inheritance from my forebears to the generations who have now come after me. ...

It was by faith that a small band of early converts [in the eastern United States] moved from New York to Ohio and from Ohio to Missouri and from Missouri to Illinois in their search for peace and freedom to worship God according to the dictates of conscience.

It was through the eyes of faith that they saw a city beautiful [Nauvoo] when first they walked across the swamps of Commerce, Illinois. With the conviction that faith without works is dead, they drained that swampland, they platted a city, they built substantial homes and houses for worship and education and, crowning all, a magnificent temple, then the finest building in all of Illinois. ...

Persecution [soon followed], with profane and murderous mobs. Their prophet was killed. Their dreams were shattered. Again it was by faith that they pulled themselves together under the pattern he had previously drawn and organized themselves for another exodus.

With tears and aching hearts they left their comfortable homes and their workshops. They

looked back on their sacred temple, and then with faith turned their eyes to the West, to the unknown and to the uncharted, and while the snows of winter fell upon them, they crossed the Mississippi [River] that February of 1846 and plowed their muddy way over the Iowa prairie.

With faith they established Winter Quarters on the Missouri [River]. Hundreds died as plague and dysentery and black canker cut them down. But faith sustained those who survived. They buried their loved ones there on a bluff above the river, and in the spring of 1847 they started ... toward the mountains of the West.

It was by faith that Brigham Young looked over [the Salt Lake] valley, then hot and barren, and declared, “This is the place.” Again by faith, four days later, he touched his cane to the ground ... and said, “Here will be the temple of our God.” The magnificent and sacred [Salt Lake Temple] is a testimony of faith, not only of the faith of those who built it but of the faith of those who now use it in a great selfless labor of love.

Wrote Paul to the Hebrews, “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” (*Heb. 11:1*) All of the great accomplishments of which I have spoken were once only “the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” But with vision, with labor, and with confidence in the power of God working through them, they brought their faith to reality.

Conference Report, October, 1983

Monument Trek

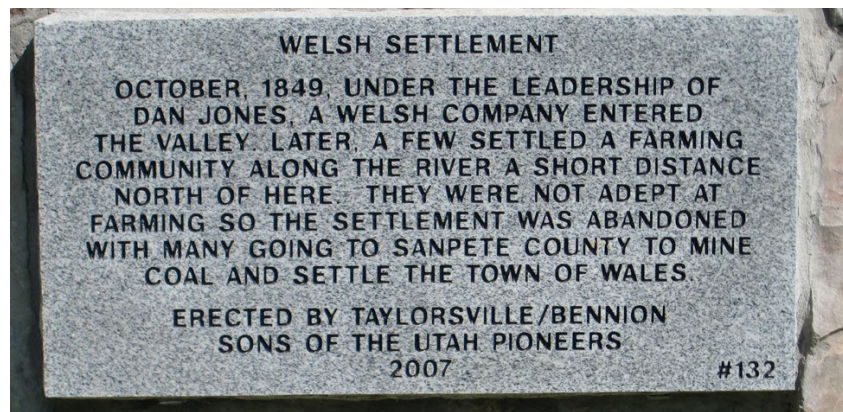
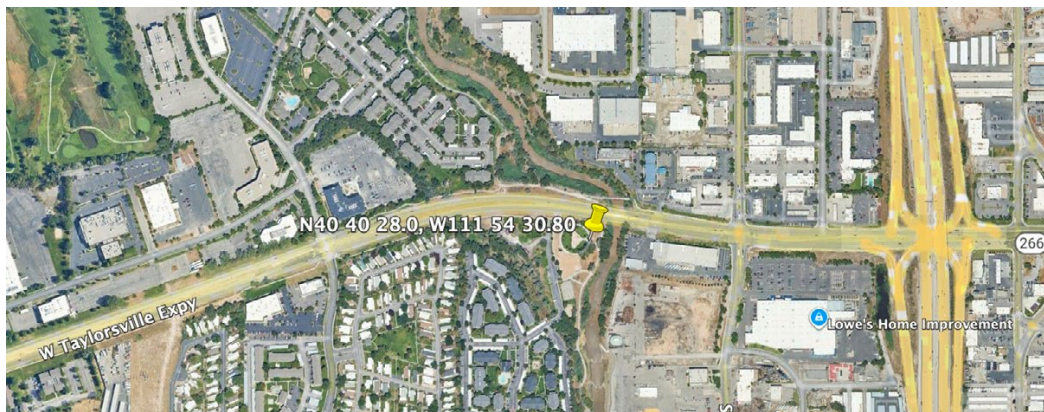
C. Welsh Settlement



SUP #132 | GPS: N40 40 28.0, W111 54 30.80 ELEVATION 4239 FEET (40.6744444, -111.9085556)

Visit the monument placed by the Taylorsville/Bennion SUP Chapter in 2007 memorializing a settlement in 1849 established by Welsh immigrants at 4550 South Jordan River Parkway in Taylorsville, Utah.

In October 1849, Dan Jones led a Welsh group into the Salt Lake Valley. Some of the group later formed a nearby farming community. However, some lacking farming skills, abandoned the farming community, and many moved and settled the town of Wales in Sanpete County to mine coal.



PIONEER 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

Bernell Taylor Maple Mountain

NEW ANNUAL MEMBERS

Paul BlanchardOgden Pioneer
Greg Johnston..... Pocatello (Portneuf Pioneers)
Keith Earl Parry Boulder Dam
Brent M Rogers..... Bountiful
Steven Ed.....Murdock
Maple Mountain
Lamont Poulsen Temple Fork
Todd Marcusen..... Cotton Mission
Robert Wood.....Ogden Valley

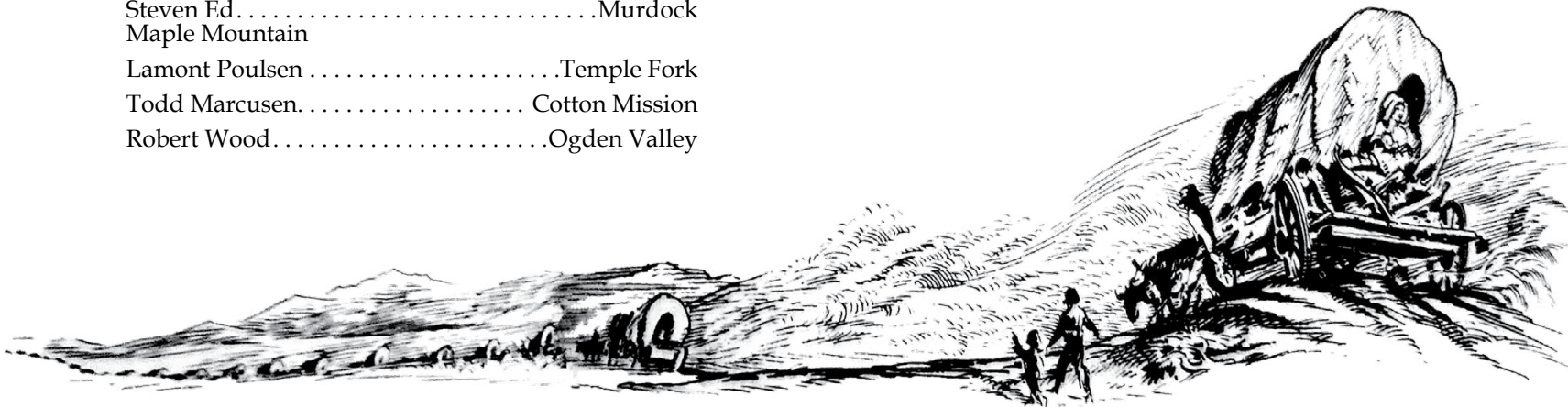
NAMECHAPTER

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBER

Mavis Elsey.....Timpanogos
Carol Howard..... Pioneer Heritage-Canyon Rim

LIFE ETERNAL

Phil Anderson..... Timpanogos
Clyde R Naylor..... Squaw Peak



BOUNTIFUL CHAPTER - Bountiful, Utah



Pot Luck Dinner

The Bountiful, Utah Chapter of The Sons of Utah Pioneers met at 6:30 pm on the outside porch veranda at the Bountiful Museum on Main Street and 350 North for a pot-luck dinner and program. The invited speaker, Dil Strasser, and his lovely wife, Diane, were introduced. Dil has served as National President of Sons of Utah Pioneers, is from Salt Lake City, Utah and has overseen the scholarships program through SUP for

many years. He gave a brief history of the scholarship program which included names such as John Morgan, Jon Huntsman and the Senior Games in St. George. Also, the guidelines and rationale behind the scholarships such as Pioneer values, higher education and opportunity for improved lifestyle and success for scholarship recipients, and future SUP membership potential for recipient families.

BRIGHAM YOUNG CHAPTER - Provo, Utah



Dr Ben Spackman

Doctor Ben Spackman was the speaker at the September meeting of the Brigham Young Chapter of Sons of Utah Pioneers. He graduated from BYU with a degree in ancient Near Eastern Studies. He received an MA and completed a PhD in ancient Semitic Languages from the University of Chicago. He received a PhD in American Religious History from Claremont. In 2022-23 he was the Mormon Studies Fellow at the

University of Utah. Doctor Spackman presented an interesting and thought-provoking lecture regarding the history of the Church's perspective on evolution and how it has navigated that issue. He discussed the First Presidency's Statements from the early 20th century, as well as current thoughts on the theory of evolution.

CEDAR CITY CHAPTER - Cedar City, Utah



Cedar City Contingent

Our activity for September was participation in the National Encampment in Ogden. Harold Shirley, Burke Hamilton, Evan Turner and their wives, along with Wayne Hinton, participated in all three days of the encampment representing the Cedar City Chapter. It was held in the old Ogden Stake Center building which was an amazingly ornate structure with a lot of history.

The tours, speakers, food and camaraderie together made for a wonderful experience.

In October we will be holding our annual Bread and Milk Supper which will include entertainment and the installation of the board of officers for the coming year.

COTTON MISSION CHAPTER - St George, Utah



Lyman Hafen leads Dixie tour

We were pleased to have Elder Kent F. Richards, emeritus general authority, speak to us at our September 16 dinner meeting. Elder Kent F. Richards was sustained as a General Authority Seventy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on April 4, 2009. He served as a counselor in the Chile Area Presidency from 2011 to 2012 and served as a counselor in the Europe Area Presidency. He served as an Assistant

Executive Director in the Temple Department from 2013 to 2014, and on August 1, 2014, he became the Executive Director of the Temple Department.

Trek: Sept 16-17 We were privileged to participate in several historic tours through the St. George area as part of Historic Dixie Days.

CENTERVILLE CHAPTER - Centerville, Utah



Mitchell Pratt



Anne Stephens and Parents

Our Centerville Chapter meeting for September started off with a wonderful dinner. We then had the winner of our Viewmont High School SUP Scholarship award presented to Anne Stephens who attended our meeting with her parents. Our presenter for the evening was Mitchell Pratt. Brother Pratt has a master's degree in Middle East Studies and Archaeology from California State University and a Ph.D. in Computer Science from Nova Southeastern University. Currently, he works as an online faculty member at Walden University, teaching students pursuing bachelor's and master's degrees. He has published articles on educational technology and the murder of Parley P. Pratt. Mitchel is a great grandson of Parley and based his talk on Parley and particularly one of his 12 wives whose name was Eleanor. She had helped Parley when he and a wife were in San Francisco and became good friends with them. Eleanor left her husband Hector because of his abuse on many occasions. However, he was able to keep their children because of the way laws were administered at that time. She

eventually went to Salt Lake City where she married Parley, and Hector went to Missouri with the children. Eleanor was eventually able to get her children back. Hector was determined to find Parley, because he felt his wife had not divorced him and she was a polygamous wife with Parley. While Elder Pratt was in Arkansas, Hector took him to court and actually pulled a gun to shoot him but was restrained by court officials. The judge kept Parley in jail till morning and then he rode out of town on horseback. Hector followed his trail then shot and stabbed him, taking his life. Many anti-Mormon newspapers at the time reported that justice had been served. Brother Mitchel and several others went to the site where it is believed Parley was buried and spent days using modern technology to try to find where his grave might have been. They dug a large trench several feet wide and deep to try and find the remains, but none were found. Those in attendance felt inspired that it was indeed Parley's resting place and dedicated it as such. There is now a monument to Parley built in 2008 at that spot in Arkansas.

EAGLE ROCK CHAPTER - Idaho Falls, Idaho



Spud Day Float 4

The Eagle Rock Chapter and the Blackfoot Daughters of Utah Pioneers joined forces to enter a float in the Shelley Spud Day Parade Saturday, September 20th. Our Buggy and Spring Wagon were loaded on a flatbed trailer pulled by Jeff's pickup. The DUP decorated the float. Volunteers in Period Dress sat on or stood by the wagon and buggy, riding in the back of the truck or walking. Now that the Steam Engine is at the Homestead Park west of Shelley, we need to clean, prep, and paint it prior to winter. After which it will be covered with a tarp until spring. We are looking for volunteers to help with the prep and painting. The monthly meeting guest presenters were

Bill and Valerie Harker. They recently returned from a service mission in Petaluma, California, located about 16 miles south of Santa Rosa and 35 miles north of San Francisco. Part of their mission involved working with a homeless shelter, preparing and serving meals, and knocking on doors, assisting the Ward Membership Clerk identifying members who had moved out or in. After the talk, the Harker's were presented with a Certificate of Appreciation, a past copy of the Pioneer Magazine, and the Idaho Medallion.

JORDAN RIVER TEMPLE CHAPTER - South Jordan, Utah



Picnic

Pictured are some of our members and guests lined up to be served dinner at our annual "Kick Off" picnic. This annual picnic celebrates a new beginning of SUP Chapter activities after a couple of months closed to most activities for a summer break. Everyone enjoyed the Sloppy Joe sandwiches along with fresh corn-on-the-cob and salads and many luscious desserts. So, a huge thank you to all participating and bringing salads and desserts and yourselves. It was fun just relaxing and visiting with one another and getting to know some others. The approximately 35 in attendance seemed to enjoy themselves very much.

Our Chapter Trek Held Saturday August 9th: On this date, about a dozen Chapter members and guests enjoyed a trek to the historic Ogden Union Railroad Station. Many of whom traveled to Ogden on the Front Runner train. Many for the first time on this train. The luncheon and visits to the museums was very enjoyable and interesting. Thank you for all who were able to participate.

MESA ARIZONA CHAPTER - Mesa, Arizona



Robin and Bruce Goldthorpe

After a two-month break, the Mesa Arizona Chapter gathered on the Third Thursday in September for our Second Thursday of the month "Potluck & Presentation!" We met on a new day and at a new location as the Olive Ward building in downtown Mesa, AZ is now hosting a program that required our relocation. Our presenters this month were Robin and Bruce Goldthorpe who recently returned from their senior

mission. They "pioneered" the newly created Modesto California Mission, with Robin serving as Mission Secretary and Bruce managing missionary cars and bikes. Their mission office occupied a stake center that was situated adjacent to the currently under construction Modesto Temple. They gave a fascinating and wonderful account of their 13-month mission.

MORGAN PIONEER CHAPTER - Morgan, Utah



Larry and Darla Newton

On Monday, September 15, the Morgan Chapter of the Sons of the Utah Pioneers met for their fall social. This was the first monthly gathering of the chapter since May of this year following the summer break. Wives were invited to join with the group at the Rock Chapel in Morgan. Larry's Spring Chicken Inn catered the lunch.

After the delicious meal the group heard from Larry and Darla Newton. They are residents of Morgan who, after retirement in June of 2012, served for 18 months at the Bishop's Storehouse. They then completed a two-year humanitarian mission to Bengauru, India followed by 18-month mission in the Farmington, New Mexico Mission. They have one son and four grandchildren all living in Croydon. In 2023 Larry and Darla were scheduled to tour the Holy Land with a tour group

but were postponed due to the Israel-Hamas war breaking out. In February of this year, they were finally able to join the tour. Larry and Darla shared their thoughts, feelings and experiences while visiting the locations where the events of the New and Old Testament occurred. Scriptures and other facts regarding the history, culture and settings of the specific sites visited were shared each day. Highlights included Nazareth, the Mount of Precipice, Capernaum, the Mount of Beatitudes, Magdala, ancient Jericho, Masada and the valley of Elah where David slew Goliath. They also visited the BYU Center, Gethsemane, the Garden Tomb and Old Jerusalem. They shared the unforgettable and inspiring feelings they had visiting sites they had learned about in Primary and Sunday School over a lifetime. Their testimonies and insights were appreciated by all in attendance.

SALT LAKE PIONEER CHAPTER - Downtown Salt Lake City, Utah



Ron L. Andersen

When: October 8 at 12pm

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

Cost: \$25 Per Person

Speaker: RON L. ANDERSEN - Young Men General Board Member

Ron L. Andersen was called as a member of the Young Men general board in June 2009. He holds a master's degree from the University of Idaho in guidance and counseling, and is retired from employment by the Church as a manager of field operations for LDS employment Resource Centers in parts of the United States and Latin America. He is the author of four books on the lives of Abraham Lincoln and Joseph Smith and is a regular lecturer at BYU Education Week on these topics. Brother Andersen has served as bishop, counselor in a stake presidency, and various Young Men and Scouting assignments. Brother Andersen is married to Kathleen Brown, and they are the parents of five children. They currently reside in Bountiful.

TAYLORSVILLE-BENNION CHAPTER - Taylorsville, Utah



John Longhurst

August meeting: The Taylorsville-Bennion Chapter reviewed our monuments in our area this month. For our chapter meeting, we highlighted six of our monuments and gave a history of each one for those in attendance to understand more about the history of our area. We had a Pioneer moment by a member of our chapter—Sam Burggraaf. He told us about one of his wife's ancestors—Stillman Pond. Stillman had five wives and 25 children. He was a bodyguard of Joseph Smith at one point. He lost six of his children during the year 1846 at Winter Quarters.

September meeting: The Taylorsville-Bennion Chapter meeting for September was presented by Boyd Knight on his Uncle Jesse Knight. Jesse Knight helped the Church to get out of debt with a donation of \$100,000. He lived in Payson and mined the Hamburg Mines. He owned several mines and built the town of Knightsville. The Jesse Knight Building on the BYU campus was named after him. He built and operated several

companies in order to help people have a job. He controlled over eighty companies. He built his own railroad. In 1901 he built Raymond Sugar Factory in Raymond, Alberta, Canada. In 1910 he purchased Provo Woolen Mills to save jobs for the workers that were there. He owned Springville-Mapleton Sugar Company. He was always looking for ways to help people support their families. It was a very interesting meeting that was enjoyed by all in attendance.

October meeting: Our next meeting will be on October 13, 2025 at 6:30 pm. Our meetings are held at the Summit Vista Center in Taylorsville. Our next meeting we will have the privilege of hearing from John Longhurst on the history of the Tabernacle and Conference Center organs. Dr. Longhurst served as Tabernacle Lead Organist for many years on Temple Square and also selected and guided the installation of the grand organ in the Conference Center. Everyone is invited to attend our meetings.

TEMPLE FORK CHAPTER - Logan, Utah



Smithfield temple site

Greeting from Cache Valley where the leaves are changing, and the nights are cool. September has been a fun and exciting month for us. We had several members attend the National Encampment in Ogden Utah. It was a great encampment and those who attended are glad they attended. At the encampment our very own Darrell Sanders was sworn in as National

President Elect. Darrell will do a great job for the SUP and trust me when I say that the SUP is in great hands with our executive council and board of directors. On September 24th we had a trek to the Smithfield Temple construction site. We had a great tour of the visitors' center followed by a great lunch at a local eatery.

TIMPANOGOS CHAPTER - American Fork, Utah

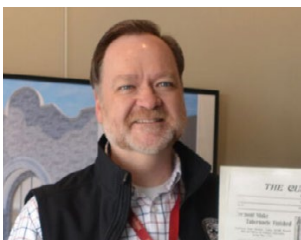


Scott Crump

This month we journeyed into the rugged history of Bingham Canyon, where Utah's mining story began. Brother Scott Crump painted a vivid picture of the canyon first settled by Thomas and Sanford Bingham in 1848, a place that would later boom with timber, cattle, and eventually copper. We learned how soldiers, settlers, and prospectors chased veins of silver and gold, only to discover that copper would be the true treasure, fueling Utah's growth in the 20th century. Bingham became a melting pot of cultures, with immigrant families from across the globe filling its narrow canyon streets, their traditions, parades,

and celebrations weaving together a "League of Nations" in the heart of Utah. From outhouses perched over creeks to Christmas celebrated twice (once on December 25th and again on January 7th for the Eastern Orthodox immigrants) Bingham Canyon's stories remind us of resilience, grit, and the colorful communities that built our state. Though most of the town has been swallowed by the great copper pit, its legacy still rings with the echoes of train whistles, blasting mines, and families who carved out a life on steep canyon walls.

UPPER SNAKE RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER - Rexburg, Idaho



Jed Platt

Summer Picnic! Fifty-eight-chapter members, spouses, and friends joined together on August 28th for our Summer Picnic! The fried chicken was yummy, the variety of salads superb, and the deserts filled us up to the brim. Jed Platt, a new member of our chapter, was the guest speaker. He is the Director of Cultural Arts for the City of Rexburg. His academic and employment history has landed him in the ideal career—

promoting and overseeing the cultural and historical activities at the Romance Theatre and the Rexburg Tabernacle. Jed introduced Flood50. This event will commemorate the Teton Dam Flood in 1976 that swept through our community fifty years ago.