



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Fellow Sons of Utah Pioneers and friends,

I hope you are having a terrific summer! I am so impressed with the wonderful events that continue to take place in all of our chapters of the Sons of Utah Pioneers. You are so dedicated to keeping the legacy of our Pioneer ancestors alive, which is inspiring to me.

Over the past several months I have met with the Ogden Pioneer Chapter 2025 Encampment team, led by Rob Scott. They have an amazing experience in store for us. Please make sure you sign up for the encampment at sup1847.com/calendar today so you don't miss out on this monumental event. Your will be treated with wonderful Tours and inspiring guest speakers, which include Elder Marlin K. Jensen, former Church Historian and Emeritus Member of the Seventy, and, for our spouses meeting Jennie

Taylor, Gold Star Widow of Major Brent Taylor.

Also, our 2026 National President, Wally Breitenstein, will take the oath of office along with our 2026 National President Elect. The National Nominating Committee received the nomination and the National Board stated its intent to declare the candidate of National President-Elect by acclamation. The general membership was then sent a ballot to ratify this motion and the results were unquestionable.

I would like to announce that Darrell Sanders will serve as our 2026 National President-Elect. Darrell is currently serving as the Utah North Area Vice President and is a member of the Temple Fork Chapter in Cache Valley. He has actively served in many church and community leadership positions. He is married to Shelley Anderson, and they have five children and nine grandchildren. Welcome Darrell!



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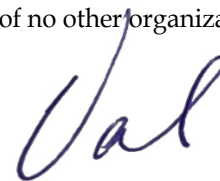
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It has been my pleasure to serve as the 2025 National President. I have traveled with my wife Allison to many chapters across the organization this year and I genuinely love my association with each of you. I know of no other organization whose membership is as dedicated to following the values that we espouse.

My love and respect for this organization and for each of you is profound.



Val Parrish | 2025 National President



SEPT 18-20

NAT'L ENCAMPMENT - OGDEN, UT

We invite all SUP members, your friends, family, neighbors, acquaintances, and everyone else you can think of that has a passion for history to join us in a once in a lifetime experience. Click [HERE](#) for detailed information and tour options. **Number of attendees per tour are limited, sign up soon!**

FRIDAY KEYNOTE SPEAKER: MARLIN K. JENSEN



Elder Marlin K. Jensen was named a member of the First Quorum of the Seventy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on April 1, 1989. He served as Executive Director of the Church History Department and was sustained as Church Historian/Recorder in the April 2005 general conference. Previously he served in the Presidency of the Seventy and as the Executive Director of the Curriculum, Historical, Priesthood, and Family and Church History Departments.

SATURDAY SPOUSES SPEAKER: JENNIE TAYLOR



Jennie is a widowed mother of seven children ages 3 to 15. She is a graduate of BYU and Utah State University. She currently serves as the volunteer Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army for the State of Utah and is the founder/director of the Major Brent Taylor Foundation. She has a passion for finding (and creating) purpose in life, and has an ever-increasing faith that God can always be found in the details.

FOR THE FULL SUP LIST OF UPCOMING EVENTS CLICK HERE

PIONEER STORIES

ALEXANDER W. DONIPHAN: A DEFENDER OF THE SAINTS

Alexander William Doniphan was a 19th-century attorney, soldier, and politician. He achieved great reputation as a leader of troops during the Mexican-American War; as the author of a legal code that still forms the basis of New Mexico's Bill of Rights; as a successful defense attorney in the Missouri towns of Liberty, Richmond and Independence; and served as a state legislator twice.

As a brigadier general in the Missouri Militia, Doniphan was ordered into the field with other forces to operate against members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, even though he had worked diligently to avoid the conflict and believed that the Saints were largely acting in self-defense. After the surrender of Far West, General Samuel Lucas took custody of Joseph Smith and other leaders illegally declared them guilty of treason, and ordered Doniphan to execute them. Doniphan indignantly refused, saying: "It is cold blooded murder. I will not

obey your order. ... if you execute these men, I will hold you responsible before an earthly tribunal, so help me God." They were accordingly sent to Liberty Jail to await trial, at which Doniphan was appointed defense attorney and diligently defended them at the risk of his reputation and possibly his life. Doniphan was instrumental in establishing a segregated safe zone in Missouri known as Caldwell County. In Doniphan's honor, Joseph and Emma Hale Smith named a son Alexander Hale Smith.

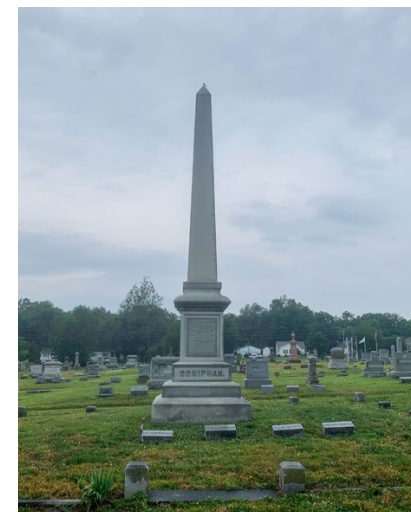
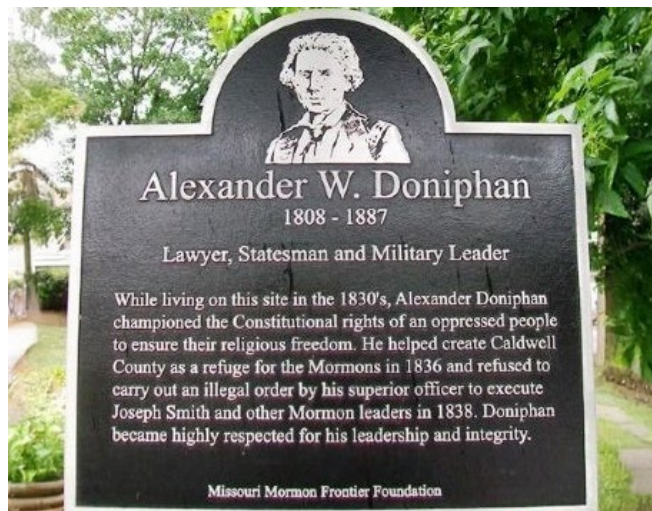
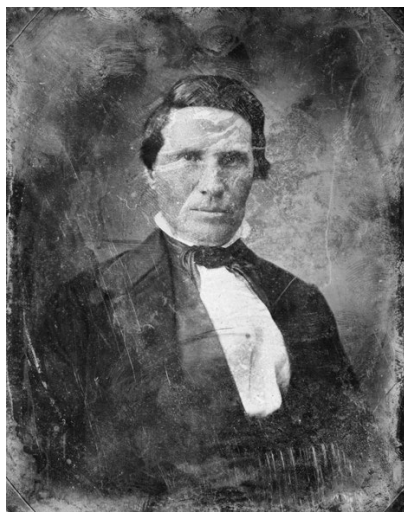
In 1843, Porter Rockwell was arrested for the failed assassination attempt of former Governor Lilburn W. Boggs. After nine months of imprisonment, and in destitute conditions, he was allowed to hire Doniphan for his defense. Doniphan managed to have the main charge of attempted murder dismissed for lack of evidence and Rockwell was sentenced to serve five-minutes for a jailbreak attempt during his prolonged imprisonment - which took four hours as

Doniphan continued to break down the persecutors failed attempts at new charges. Upon Rockwell's release Doniphan gave him all the cash he had on his person and delayed mob pursuit as long as he could.

In 1846, the Mormon Battalion were met with a 100 gun salute as they entered Sante Fe, New Mexico. This was orchestrated by commander in charge Doniphan who accommodated all their needs during their stay.

Forty years after the events of 1838, an aged Doniphan visited the Utah Territory seeking audience with Brigham Young. He received a hero's welcome and was treated like royalty by the Saints for his role in preserving the life of their Prophet.

In the late 1860s Doniphan re-opened his law office in Richmond, Missouri; his statue is displayed outside the courthouse. He died at the age of 79 and is buried in the Liberty town cemetery.



Monument Trek

Early Riverton



EARLY RIVERTON AND THE MAGNIFICENT DOME CHURCH SUP #7
RIVERTON PARK, 12255 S. 1300 W. RIVERTON, UTAH

MAGNIFICENT DOME CHURCH: N40 31 16.91, W111 55 56.24 - ELEVATION 4421 FEET (40.5213639, -111.9322889)

EARLY RIVERTON: N40 31 11.11, W111 55 55.28 - ELEVATION 4410 FEET (40.5197528, -111.9320222)

THE MAGNIFICENT DOME CHURCH: N40 31 15.44, W111 55 58.94 - ELEVATION 4428 FEET (40.5209556, -111.9330389)

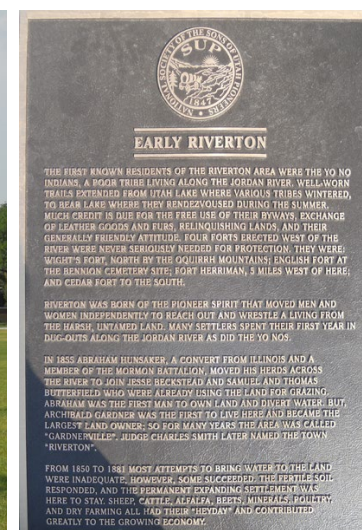
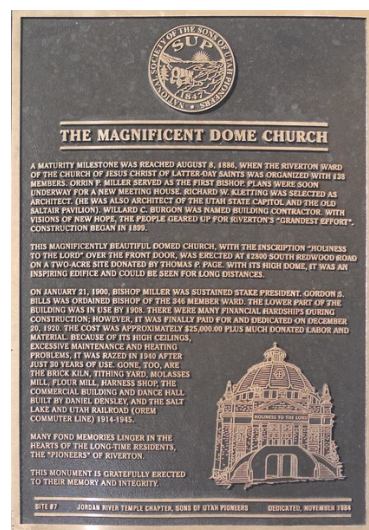
Riverton City grew out of the Pioneer Spirit—a determination that drove men and women to wrestle a living from harsh, untamed land. Many of the first settlers lived their first year in dugouts along the Jordan River, just as the Yo No Indians, the first residents of the Riverton area, had done.

In 1855, Abraham Hunsaker, a Mormon Battalion veteran and convert from Illinois, brought his herds across the river to join Jesse Beckstead and Samuel and Thomas Butterfield, who were already grazing animals in the area. Hunsaker became the first man to both own land and divert water for use. However, Archibald Gardner was the first to actually live there. He eventually became the largest landowner, and for many years the settlement was called “Gardnersville.” Later, Judge Charles Smith changed it to “Riverton.”

Between 1850 and 1881, early attempts to irrigate the land often fell short, but some succeeded. Once water was properly managed, the fertile soil produced abundantly, ensuring permanence as a growing settlement. Over the years, sheep, cattle, alfalfa, sugar

beets, minerals, poultry, and dry farming all had their heyday, each contributing to the town's economy.

A major milestone came on August 8, 1886, when the Riverton Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was organized with 138 members. Orrin P. Miller was called as the first bishop. Soon after, plans began for a new meetinghouse. The chosen architect was Richard W. Kletting—who also designed the Utah State Capitol and the original Saltair Pavilion. Willard C. Burdon was appointed as contractor, and with high hopes the community prepared for what became Riverton's grandest effort. Construction began in 1899.



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

James O Gubler Hurricane Valley
William Randall Cedar City
Richard F Sanders Ogden Pioneer

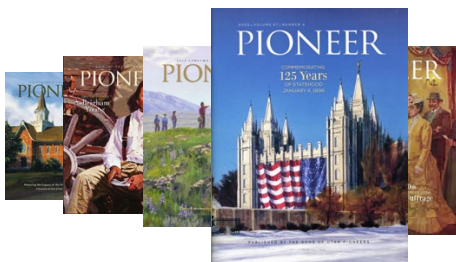
NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBER

Margaret Fenstermaker Holladay

NAMECHAPTER

NEW ANNUAL MEMBERS

Aaron Harker Pocatello (Portneuf Pioneers)
Ted P Hawkins Timpanogos
James Hobbs Porter Rockwell
Gregory Jarrard Jordan River Temple
Greg Johnson Pocatello (Portneuf Pioneers)
Hayden Lambson. Pocatello (Portneuf Pioneers)
Cory Lindorff Squaw Peak
Michael Mahkorn. WorldWide Pioneer
Stratford Murdock Cotton Mission
Riley Murphy Mills
Wayne Neilson Hurricane Valley
Dennis Parker Hurricane Valley
Jed Platt Upper Snake River Valley



GIVE THE GIFT OF PIONEER MAGAZINE

For over 75Years, the Sons of Utah Pioneers Pioneer Magazine has provided a venue for award-winning authors to cast fresh light on significant Utah historical events, people, and places. Utah's fascinating story is told in each beautifully illustrated issue with riveting text, exquisite art and rich photography.

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CEDAR CITY CHAPTER - Cedar City, Utah



Evan Jones

On Saturday, August 16th, our chapter hosted our annual August breakfast at the LDS chapel pavilion on Leigh Hill. Garth Green and his family cooked up a delicious breakfast of French toast, sausage, eggs and fresh fruit. Following breakfast, Evan Jones led us on a trek to the Desert Mound Iron Mine west of Cedar City. Evan is our resident expert on anything to do with the mining industry in Iron County having written with his father York a book titled, "Iron Mining and Manufacturing in Utah: A History." Iron County has five major iron ore mining

areas: Desert Mound, Iron Springs, Iron Mountain, Comstock and Three Peaks. Operations at Desert Mound ended in 1980 due to poor economics. The other mining areas are also dormant with the Comstock area the latest to cease operations. It is believed that several hundred million tons of ore remain unmined, but poor economics will likely preclude them ever being developed. In September we look forward to participating in the National Encampment in Ogden followed by our annual Bread and Milk Supper in October.

COTTON MISSION CHAPTER - St George, Utah



Dr. Kyle Walker

At our August 19 dinner meeting we heard from Dr. Kyle Walker, whose topic was "Sister to the Prophet, The Life of Katherine Smith Salisbury." Dr. Walker is a noted expert on Joseph Smith's family and has written books and articles about Joseph's immediate family, including their relationship to the restoration of the Gospel. He has appeared on YouTube videos discussing the family of the prophet. Kyle R. Walker is an administrator in the Counseling Center at Brigham Young University-Idaho. He received his PhD in marriage and family therapy from Brigham Young University. He has taught in the

Religion Departments at BYU and BYU-Idaho. His doctoral dissertation focused on the family dynamics of the Joseph Sr. and Lucy Mack Smith family. He is the editor of United by Faith: The Joseph Sr. and Lucy Mack Smith Family. He is also the author of the award-winning biography William B. Smith: In the Shadow of a Prophet and, most recently, Sister to the Prophet: The Life of Katharine Smith Salisbury. He has just completed his service as president of The John Whitmer Historical Association.

EAGLE ROCK CHAPTER - Idaho Falls, Idaho



Potato Museum

We reviewed the Pioneer Day Celebration event and how well it went. The Park Committee emphatically states there will be another next year, only bigger and better with more things to do for the visitors. The Lincoln Idaho Sugar Factory Steam Engine Monument has been moved to the Snake River Historical Homestead Park and awaits cleaning and repainting. This winter, we anticipate the exact location will have been designated for a new cement pad to be poured in preparation for final placement next spring. Instead of our regular monthly meeting, our Annual Trek was planned along with the Grove City Chapter (Blackfoot). The turnout was well attended. First

stop was the Idaho Potato Museum alongside the railroad tracks in Blackfoot, Idaho. The history of growing, harvesting, storing, and selling potatoes was very interesting, even to long-time residents of the area. Photos, videos, and exhibits of antique potato farm implements were on display. If so inclined, visitors could also step into the little cafe and have a snack/meal on baked potatoes. We then lunched and socialized at a longtime establishment called, "Rupe's Burgers" nearby. After lunch we traveled south in Interstate 15 exiting at Fort Hall to visit the Sho-Ban Museum where we learned about the history, culture, symbolism, and dress of the Shoshone and Bannock Tribes.

HURRICANE CHAPTER - Hurricane, Utah

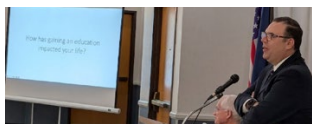


Woodshed Jam Group

July Activity: This activity was held on Kolob Mountain at the Hinton/Bradshaw cabin. Some of the comments about this event were: "Everything was so well done. There were a lot of people at this outing and the food was served promptly and was really good!": (Bob Gurr) President Brian Hinton said: "Great job Everyone on your pulling this SUP Summer Family

Party off. A ton of work went into it by many people..." The entertainment was fantastic with the Woodshed Jam Group consisting of Chuck Reeve, Devin Ruesch, Zach Forsyth, Colton Winder, Rob Goulding, Jarolyn Stout, Lavon Hinton, and Monta Ballard.

OGDEN PIONEER CHAPTER - Ogden, Utah



Gabriel Chard

The Ogden Pioneer Chapter monthly meeting was held on August 11, 2025. Mike Farr shared how a recent effort for the restoration and relocation of the Lorin Farr and James Brown monuments in Ogden's Municipal Garden. Gabriel Chard,

director of BYU Pathways Worldwide - Latin America, area was our speaker. He shared that education is the key to unlocking the door of opportunity. Pathways is presently in 180 countries with 90,000 students worldwide.

PORTNEUF CHAPTER - Pocatello, Idaho



Rick Phillips

Rick Phillips, a member of the Pocatello Portneuf Pioneers chapter of the Sons of Utah Pioneers was recently inducted into the Eastern Idaho Agricultural Hall of Fame. From his early days on the family farm in Dayton, Idaho, Phillips (or Rick if you know him), has spent his career working with, or promoting agriculture in Idaho. Rick grew up on the family dairy farm in Dayton and later worked in ag finance. He later worked at the Idaho State Department of Agriculture, where he organized the Idaho Agriculture in the Classroom initiative. He also helped develop the ag department's first international trade mission to Taiwan and hand-carried 40 pounds of Idaho onions to introduce at Asia's largest food show in Tokyo. Recently

retired from the J.R. Simplot Co. where he worked since 1990, Rick has helped promote multifaceted agriculture programs in food production, ranching, nutrients and technology in Eastern Idaho and internationally. While at Simplot, he partnered with Farm Bureau to establish the Southeast Idaho Farmers Market, which is now the Portneuf Valley Farmers Market. Rick has been involved in the Portneuf Pioneers chapter, serving on the chapter board of directors for several years. He led our Trek one year doing an outstanding job of organizing and leading our tour through the mountains from Bear Lake to Afton, Wyoming, visiting many historical sites along the way.

SALT LAKE PIONEER CHAPTER - Downtown Salt Lake City, Utah



Aaron West

When: September 10th at 12pm

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

Cost: \$25 Per Person

Speaker: AARON WEST - Visitor Experience Specialist,
Historic Sites Division, Church History Department

Aaron loves helping people draw nearer to Jesus Christ at the Church's historic sites. His greatest desires are to be a true disciple of the Savior and to be the husband, father, and grandfather his family needs him to be. He and his wife, Emma, find great joy in spending time with their children and grandchildren.

SETTLEMENT CANYON CHAPTER - Tooele, Utah



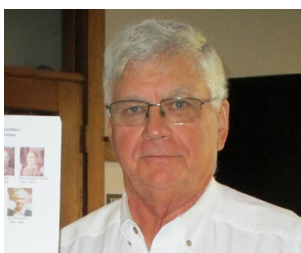
Ian Christensen

On August 7th Ian Christensen entertained the Settlement Canyon Chapter with his love of Saltair. Ian is the Assistant IT Director at the Utah State Bar, a researcher, organizer, and writer of an in-progress book named "The Lost History of Saltair."

"How I came to be writing a book on Saltair. It all started with my first job at Lagoon where I worked in Ride Operations." Ian had always loved engineering and figuring out how things worked and during his time at Lagoon he became obsessed with Roller Coasters. He thirsts to know everything about them, looking at them, designing them, and riding them. He used professional roller coaster design software to design his own rides and put them up on YouTube. Occasionally, he replicated

or clone coasters that really existed. In the case of Saltair, he replicated Saltair's Giant Racer. In the process he accumulated an immense amount of data on the ride, even speaking with one of the rides' former operators/mechanics. "From there I researched Saltair's other coasters as they had 3 in total," he said. "I had gathered so much data, I decided I would write a book about the Roller Coasters of Saltair. The problem was I was trying to only write about the roller coasters of Saltair, however the reason they were there was the resort. The last book written on Saltair was in the 1980's. I told people about my project; feedback, was I should write about the whole resort. After much thought, I decided it was the only way to go."

TEMPLE FORK CHAPTER - Logan, Utah



LaMont Poulsen

Temple Fork Chapter met on 18 August at the Logan Country Club. We invited Lamont & Connie Poulsen, to share their Family history as related to the Smithfield Temple property. LaMont & Connie both remarked, "How do you say no, when 6 generations of Watts know the Lord selects His own property." 160 years ago their property was purchased by Henry and Joseph Watts who immigrated in 1856. Both LaMont & Connie are descendant of Henry Watts. The Temple property

was a farm inheritance. LaMont has farmed the land for many years. The Church obtained 13.3 acres from LaMont & Connie Poulsen in 2018 to build a Temple. The family feels the Temple site was fated (hjnews.com). An additional note: LaMont Poulsen began his relationship with Cache County Fair 41 years ago as the Jr. Livestock Beef Chairman. Since 2002 he has been the Chairman of Cache County Rodeo Committee.

TEMPLE QUARRY CHAPTER - Salt Lake City, Utah



Dead Sea Scrolls

In August the Temple Quarry Chapter had the privilege of witnessing a presentation by our National Librarian, Bruce Stewart, about the pivotal role that written records have played in the development of civilizations. Manuscripts, plates, and scrolls have been the primary method for preserving and transmitting knowledge for most of human history before the invention of the printing press. They are invaluable not only for

the texts they contain but also as unique archaeological artifacts that reveal clues about the societies that produced them. Bruce showed us numerous examples of how ancient records were kept. They were knowledge repositories which held records of ancient literature, history, philosophy, and cultural practices that would have otherwise been lost over time. Of course,

(Continued On Following Page)

without the golden plates, we would be without the Book of Mormon. Brother Stewart also explained the important function that the Sons of Utah Pioneers Library plays in remembering the heritage of our pioneer ancestors. He shared with us the important work that is taking place there.

Because Mr. Kerr exhibited the qualities of a pioneer for the last 97 years, we awarded Mr. Tom Kerr the National SUP Modern Pioneer Award.

TIMPANOGOS CHAPTER - American Fork, Utah



Brian Kershnik

Those who gathered with our Timpanogos Chapter this month were treated to a wonderful evening with renowned Latter-day Saint artist Brian Kershnik, who shared his artwork with both humor and spiritual depth. From the start, he had the room laughing with his quick wit, and we were the butt of his lighthearted opening joke, which set the tone for a fantastic and engaging evening. Kershnik explained that he approaches the blank canvas of each painting with questions, believing that curiosity opens the way to discovery. He spoke of the patience and persistence needed in both art and discipleship, reminding us that the “rescue of mankind” through Christ was not a quick or simple act, but an enduring work of love. He touched on what Jesus taught in the Sermon on the Mount, explaining that

turning the other cheek was a form of nonviolent resistance. In a society where a backhanded slap marketing inferiority, offering the other cheek demanded acknowledgment of one's equal worth. Perhaps most moving was his testimony of Christ's life, birth, and resurrection. He reminded us that discipleship often comes down to choosing faith over despair “a thousand times a day.” His paintings, such as *She Will Find What Is Lost*, invite each viewer to discover personal meaning because, as he put it, “if I've done my job, everyone should interpret the piece for themselves.” It was an evening filled with laughter, reverence, and deep appreciation for both art and the gospel, a reminder that creativity and faith are companions in helping us see the divine in everyday life.

UPPER SNAKE RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER - Rexburg, Idaho



Chesterfield

Pioneer Fireside. Our annual Pioneer Fireside was held on July 27th, Sunday, at 7:00 p.m. in the Rexburg Idaho Center Stake. The program was conducted by Dan Shewell, President of the Upper Snake River Valley Chapter of the Sons of Utah Pioneers. Then there was an introduction of the theme by Doug Ladle, President of the Rexburg-Madison County Historical Society. Speakers included: Hyrum Flamm “The Life of Jacob; Henry Flamm” Larry Rigby “The Life of William F. Rigby; F. Martell Grover “The Life of Thomas E. Ricks.”

A special musical number was “Faith in Every Footstep” arranged by Josh Williams. Trumpet: Adam Pyper, Euphonium: Josh Williams, Trombone: Nathan Cullimore, and Tuba: Jacob

Williams. 225 individuals attended the fireside and over 25 attendees asked for copies of the transcripts and PowerPoints used by the speakers in their talks.

Chesterfield Trek. Thirty-five members and spouses travelled to Chesterfield, Idaho, on August 4th, for the chapter's annual trek. They learned about the pioneer settlement in Chesterfield through an excellent tour hosted by the Chesterfield Historical Foundation.

After their lunch, they travelled to Montpelier to visit the Oregon Trail Center. Before leaving, each van circled the Montpelier Temple site which will be dedicated in November.