OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF UTAH PIONEERS

# Trail Marker

VOLUME 22 | PIONEERING YESTERDAY, TODAY & TOMORROW | NUMBER 9

ISSUE 253



September is here, bringing the shift from summer to fall—a time of change. Earlier this year, I wrote about life's changes and how they can help us grow. As I close my year as National SUP President, I want to return to that theme: Change is good, so let's make the most of it!

Throughout history, September has brought significant change. Some of those changes marked the end of war—such as the 1783 treaty that officially recognized the United States as an independent nation after the American Revolutionary War—while others marked the beginning of war, including World War II in 1939. These were truly momentous changes.

Another huge change was the signing of the US Constitution (on September 17, 1787, in Philadelphia). The signing replaced a weak government with a strong and united system of government. Article V of the Constitution included an amendment process so future generations could update the text of the Constitution as the world changed. The first 10 amendments [the Bill of Rights] were approved in September of 1789 (although not ratified until 1791).

The Constitution protects essential freedoms, legal rights, and public safety. For the National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers, these protections help preserve our ability to organize, elect leaders, gather, and teach the values of our pioneer ancestors.

This September, we embrace change with a transition in National SUP leadership. You recently had opportunity to vote for a president-elect to help guide the organization in the years ahead. I believe this change will be positive, and I encourage you to support our president-elect and current SUP leaders.

For the past two years I have had a wonderful experience serving on the Executive Council of SUP. I look forward to one final year in that capacity. You will see me giving my utmost support to SUP, and to you, as I continue to serve.

Our new president-elect will be sworn in this month during the closing session of our Encampment in Pocatello, Idaho. If you haven't already, I encourage you to attend the September 17–19 event. Encampments are a highlight of the SUP experience, and the Encampment planning committee has worked hard to make this gathering enjoyable and memorable. It is not too late to sign up!

As we move forward in life and service, let us make the most of every opportunity to embrace change. Change is good, as this month of September has historically shown us.

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

## IN THIS ISSUE

2 DETAILS ON THE 2026 NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

3 STEPHEN WILLIAMS, PIONEER

4 THE HONEYMOON TRAIL

5 CHAPTER NEWS & EVENTS

# 2026 NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT | POCATELLO, IDAHO

**We want to welcome everyone to Pocatello and the surrounding areas. We have some great programs, wonderful tours, and fascinating places to visit. Don't let this opportunity pass you by!**

CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP!




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

***Schedule of Events***

*Thursday, September 17th*

- Temple Sessions at 9:30 am, 10:30 am, and 11:00 am (arrive 30 minutes before each session)
- 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm Registration & activities at the Tyhee Stake Center, (DUP) - pioneer games, crafts, family history, local history, western night.
- 6:00 pm Welcome and Dinner
- 7:00 pm Speaker: Bryan Murray, retired judge speaking on Pocatello history, followed by entertainment - Boyd Murdock, Roy McKee (music), and Todd Andrus (cowboy poet)

*Friday, September 18th*

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

*Saturday, September 19th*

- 8:00 am National Board Members Meeting.
- 9:15 am Business Meeting for all SUP Members.
- 9:15 am Spouse's meeting: Jynnea Smedely, Speaker
- 10:15 am General Meeting, Catered Luncheon & Farewell

- Theme –
*"Gateway to the Northwest"*

**Full-Day Tours** (Box Lunch provided for each attendee)

*Friday, September 18th*

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



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

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

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



Home of the largest concentration of Welsh people outside of Wales. Visit the Oneida Museum in Malad and the Heritage Square in Samaria. Visit the original Olive Davis Osmond Cabin, mother of the famous Osmond family of performers.

3 - Visit historic Chesterfield townsite and Soda Springs.

More Info



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

More Info




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

More Info



**Half-Day Tours** (Lunch provided at Caldwell Park at 12 noon)

*Friday, September 18th*

6a - Visit Idaho State University (Celebrating 125 year anniversary) – Leave at 8:15 am in the morning in your personal auto to the ISU Student Union Bldg. Visit Strategic Rocks, Northern Utah Railroad Monument, ISU Campus History, Performing Arts Center, and ICCU Dome. Performing Arts Center ICCU Dome.

6b - Visit Idaho State University (Celebrating 125 year anniversary) – Leave at 1:00 pm in your personal auto to the ISU Student Union Bldg. for the Presentation of the 1st Nuclear Power by Richard Lindsay, tour the Nuclear Lab and Engineering Bldg., and LDS Institute Bldg. Nuclear Reactor Lab

7a - Visit historic Pocatello – Leave at 9:00 am in your Personal auto to the 1st Ward Bldg. Monument, then visit the Museum of Clean and the historic ZCMI Memorial Building. More Info

7b - Visit historic Pocatello – Leave at 1:00 pm in your Personal auto to the Bannock County Museum. Visit the museum, Fort Hall Replica then the miniature railroad. More Info

**Lodging Options**

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

**Hotels and places to stay**
Trip Advisor for Hotels & Places to Stay in Pocatello



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

PIONEER STORIES

# STEPHEN WILLIAMS

1854 Pioneer Family History

*Written by Great Grandson Bert Williams, member of SUP Settlement Canyon Chapter*



Stephen Williams came across the plains with the 3rd company of Capt. Darwin Richardson and arrived September 30, 1854.

Stephen was born May [31] 1816, in Hartland, Devonshire, England. He was the 6th of 11 children born to Thomas Williams and Sarah Elliott. He worked with his father who was listed as a cordwainer (leather tanner).

He married Ann Rendle of Hartland on April 12, 1841. They had 2 sons, John and Thomas. Thomas died as a baby and his mother Ann [Rendle] died soon after.

On December 26, 1845, Stephen married Emma Jane Hillard (March 30, 1826 – June 27, 1897) in Bristol, Somersetshire, England. During the next 26 years, she gave birth to 12 children . . . ten of whom grew to adulthood and married. The first four of these children were born in Bristol, England. . . It was during this time that the missionaries came to their home, and they were soon converted to the church. Because of the abuse and ridicule, they received from the people for joining the church, they soon made arrangements to come to America.

They sailed out of Liverpool, England on the Windermere sailing vessel with their five children, taking them two months to make the trip to New Orleans. . . .For them to make the voyage, they had to get help from the P.E.F. (Perpetual Emigration Fund) . . . They left Liverpool on the 22nd of February 1854 with 477 Saints on board. Elder Daniel Garn was in charge the Saints. They landed in New Orleans on the [23rd] of April [1854].

During the voyage, an epidemic of smallpox broke out with 37 passengers and 2 crew members afflicted, but through prayer few lost their lives. During this voyage, there were 6 marriages, 6 births, and 10 deaths.

The company left New Orleans on the 27th of April on board a steamboat and arrived in St. Louis several days later, … then journeyed on to Kansas City, where they started their preparation to go west. While family members were preparing for their trip west by oxen, their small boy, Joseph Alma died June 28, 1854. Six weeks later on [August] 11, Samuel Moroni was born enroute to the Salt Lake Valley.

The emigration records show that the Stephen Williams family crossed the plains in the 3rd Company of Capt. Darwin Richardson. [The company] arrived in Salt Lake City, [September 30, 1854] which made their trip three months long far short of those who traveled with the first groups

Upon arrival in the valley, Stephen had to work to take care of his family and . . . pay back the Perpetual Emigration Find. After three years in the Salt Lake Valley, they were called by Pres. Young to go to Ephraim, Sanpete County. . . It was in the Salt Lake Valley and Ephraim where the remainder of their family was born.

Upon arriving in Ephraim with Lars Anderson, and with no place to stay, Lars Anderson took them into his dugout, and they lived there until Spring when Stephen moved his family into Fort Ephraim. (It has been said that the two families got pretty well fed up with one another.) However, 36 years later Stephen's youngest son, Stephen Henry, married Lars Anderson's granddaughter.

Stephen Williams' wife Emma Jane Hillard Williams was the 1st President of the Primary Association . . . in Ephraim on the 20th of May 1879. . .

Stephen Williams was a tanner by trade, so on all the old Fort Ephraim maps it shows the Williams Tannery. Many of the Stephen Williams family moved to Emery, Utah to start their families and homes. Stephen died January 8, 1897, Emery, Utah.

My grandfather, Charles Heber Williams, was the 8th child born to Stephen and Emma Jane and was born in Ephraim. It is interesting to know that Russell M. Nelson's (apostle) mother was the 7th child born to Stephen and Emma in Ephraim. Our [relatives were] . . . brother and sister.

My grandfather was born [on] 12 July 1866 in Ephraim, Utah . . . little is known about his early childhood or his education. At the age of 29 and on August 9, [1885], he married Sarah Jane Shiner in Fremont, Utah and took Sarah Jane to Emery, Utah to be near many of his family.

In his early years, he worked in a brick yard and then became a stagecoach driver between Emery and Price, Utah. He also spent some time in Hiawatha in a machine shop [then] became an expert at sheep shearing before going back to the stagecoach. It was at this time he caught pneumonia and died on 3 November 1914.

1 Photo: Familysearch.org submitted by Sheri Bowen Libutti

2 Sons of Utah Pioneers Research Library submitted by SUP Settlement Canyon Chapter

# Monument Trek



## The Honeymoon Trail

**SUP #228 | GPS: N37 02 03.7, W112 15 36.8 ELEVATION 5345 FEET (37.0343611, -112.2602222)**

Celebrate Your Anniversary on the Honeymoon Trail in rural Kane County, Utah. Click HERE to view on the SUP Monuments Database. Take Highway 89 east from Kanab, Utah to Seaman Canyon Road (County Road 707) 15.2 miles. Turn right on to Seaman Canyon Road and drive another .4 miles south.

The monument documents the route that members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints traveled all the way from parts of northern New Mexico and Arizona to be united in eternal marriage in the St. George Temple. Thus, the route was named the "Honeymoon Trail". Just as it was previously, accommodations remain limited at present. Visiting there makes you appreciate more your short journey to the House of the Lord today!











# CHAPTER 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!

*Name . . . . . Chapter*

**NEW LIFE MEMBERS**

**Bernell Taylor . . . . . Maple Mountain**

**NEW ANNUAL MEMBERS**

**Martin Gunnell . . . . . Snow Horse**
**Robert Holloway II . . . . WorldWide Pioneer**
**John Hoopes . . . . . Mt Nebo**
**Robert Johnson . . . . . Upper Snake River**

**CHAPTER ETERNAL MEMBERS**

**Terry Clemmer . . . . . .Mills**
**Drue Labrum . . . . . Sevier Valley**
**Wayne Pace . . . . . Cotton Mission**



## UPCOMING NATIONAL TRAININGS

Zoom link will be provided to those invited to attend:

**TRAINING OF AREA VICE PRESIDENTS**
Wednesday, October 7 | 6-9pm

**CHAPTER LEADERSHIP TRAININGS:**
Saturday, October 10 | 10am-12pm,
Central and Southern Utah

Saturday Oct 24 | 10am-12pm
Salt Lake South / East / West, Arizona, Eastern US

Saturday, November 7 | 10am-12pm
Idaho, Utah North, Ogden & Davis Counties

**FOR UPCOMING SUP NATIONAL EVENTS, CLICK HERE**

## CEDAR CITY CHAPTER - Cedar City, Utah



*Al Matheson*

Saturday, August 15th, we held our annual breakfast and trek. Following a great breakfast, Al Matheson explained why he named the trek, "Spies, Lies and Counterfeit Ghosts." In December 1944, a B-24 bomber crashed into the mountain up Shurtz Canyon south of Cedar City. The official story was that the plane had been stolen by German spies in San Diego and flown over Nevada where the spies parachuted out and left the plane on autopilot to eventually crash. The government claimed all the spies were caught and executed. Locals scavenged much of the wreckage. Discrepancies in the story lead our intrepid Al to track down the truth by identifying the plane and tracking down military records. The truth was that pilot Morgan Rivers and his crew were on a classified mission to test the range of a new B-24 following some modifications. They were scheduled to land in Tonapah, Nevada, but couldn't make it due to weather conditions. They headed for the Cedar City airport but ran out of gas. Before all the engines failed, they parachuted out. One crew member was killed when he hit a wing on his way out, but the other crew members all survived and were transferred to England where they flew 29 combat missions before returning to the US.

## COTTON MISSION CHAPTER - St George, Utah



*Charles Castleberry*

The Cotton Mission Chapter held our monthly dinner meeting on Tuesday, August 18. Historian, author, and constitutional researcher Charles Castleberry was our speaker. He focused on America's founding era and the original ideas that shaped the Declaration of Independence. His work centers on primary-source research—what the founders actually wrote, when they wrote it, and why—rather than later interpretations layered on top of the record. Castleberry has authored the book The Declaration's Forgotten Liberties, which traces Thomas Jefferson's intellectual development through his key writings from 1774 to 1776 and demonstrates that the Declaration did not emerge suddenly or in isolation. By restoring overlooked documents, contributors, and historical context, his research challenges several long-standing myths that have become entrenched in modern academia and popular education.

## EAGLE ROCK CHAPTER - Idaho Falls, Idaho



*Ice cream Stop on Trek*

Several chapter members and guests traveled to the Teton Valley Historical Museum located at Driggs, Idaho for our Autumn Trek. The museum was clean, modern, and well organized made up of many alcoves that were themed to meet a particular purpose in years past such as kitchens, living rooms, the old post office, early printing and photography, and coal mining tools. We took the elevator to continue on the upper floor to find even more alcoves. We viewed various military artifacts, uniforms, tools, weapons, and photos that have been collected to make this an extensive tribute, filling two rooms, to those who served. The museum has an assortment of wagons, buggies, and horse drawn farm implements on display outside another large building dedicated to local agriculture. All through the museum were many photos and placards with text describing the artifact, what it was used for, and who had contributed, or loaned it, to the museum. Also outside, under an open shelter was a large steam boiler for a steam engine powered sawmill. After the visit, we gathered at a small sandwich shop across the highway for lunch. From there we travelled back home stopping at the infamous "Square Ice Cream" store and filled the sweet tooth with delicious flavors of ice cream.

## OGDEN PIONEER CHAPTER - Ogden, Utah



*Elder Norton*

For our August meeting, the bulk of the program was a presentation by Elder and Sister Norton, the Directors of the Ogden Family History Center. They discussed the type of programs and activities available at the Center and briefly talked about how Artificial Intelligence (AI) is transforming genealogical research and family history. The programs and resources available to the public include the following: Group Visits -- Anyone can schedule a group visit to the Center to educate and help participants learn more about family history and genealogy; Internship Program -- There is an internship program that provides selected youth with the opportunity to participate in a more in-depth experience with family history and genealogy; Discovery Center -- The Discovery Center is an interactive program which provides an opportunity for anyone to "discover" what famous people they might be related to and gain a greater appreciation for who some of their ancestors are who contributed to the history and culture of America and other nations; Classes and Webinars -- A wide variety of classes and webinars are available to assist patrons in learning and using the family search tools at the Center; Technology Center – the Technology Center has a wide variety of scanning and video equipment available to help patrons with the preservation of photos, audio tapes, videos, and documents and attach them to a person's record; last, but not least Missionaries -- There are always missionaries available to help individuals, one-on-one, with their questions and problems in finding one's ancestors or learning the Family Search tools to assist them in one's genealogy work.

## PORTNEUF CHAPTER - Pocatello, Idaho



*Wally Breitenstein*

President Wally Breitenstein was our featured speaker for the May monthly meeting of the Portneuf Pioneers chapter. After a potluck dinner, he spoke on pioneer "value of unyielding determination." It was given to a full chapel full of members and guests, which were fed spiritually and physically. He was given a 50lb box of "Idaho potatoes" as a thank you gift to take home. After his presentation he and his wife mingled with the attendees. Thank you, President Breitenstein.

## SALT LAKE PIONEER CHAPTER - Downtown Salt Lake City, Utah



*Larry Lunt*

**When:** --Wednesday, September 9, 12PM

**Location:** Education Center by LDS Hospital
(8th Ave and C Street. North of the main hospital doors on the west side of the hospital). Parking garages are across the street, to the west.

**Cost:** $25 Per Person

**Speaker:** Larry V. Lunt

General Lunt has had a successful career in military, business, civic, and religious service. After more than 36 years in the military beginning as a pilot in the Viet Nam War, continuing through the cold war and the dissolution of the Soviet Union, the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the war on drugs in central and south America, and with the United States Air Force Academy.

## SETTLEMENT CANYON CHAPTER - Tooele, Utah



*Dan Adams*

On August 6th the Settlement Canyon Chapter members were entertained by Dan Adams a retired Elementary School Principal in Alpine School District with a BS in Elementary Education and a MS in Curriculum, he also earned an Administrative Endorsement from the University of Utah. Dan's topic and passion was The History of Flour Mills in Wasatch County and Utah. In detail Dan showed us what the Gristmill was and how 16 of the 54 Gristmill were upgraded to Roller Mills after 1880. He explained what Millstones were and the different Millstone Patterns, that the furrows and lands are cut into the stone to grind the grain and push the flour to the outside edge of the stone as it rotates. That many of the millstones used in Utah were French-Burh Millstones quarried in France. That Dressing a millstone was done using a tool known as a Mill Bill. The Mill Bill was used to chisel the Furrows and Land as a new millstone was created, it was also used to sharpen stones after many hours of grinding. To produce a higher quality of flour, Gristmills began using equipment called Bolters, the Bolting Cloth is used to sift the bran, chaff and other impurities from the flour. Dan also, explained the products of Roller Mills, which were Baking Flour, Bran Flour and Wheat Shorts. The Gristmill was critical the survival of the early pioneers in Utah.

## SQUAW PEAK CHAPTER - Provo, Utah



*Trek Participants*

On June 27, 2026, members of the Squaw Peak Chapter in Orem Utah went on a Trek to Wallsburg, Utah to see the Richard Erickson Antique and Classic Power Museum. The Museum houses one of the largest and most unique collections of antique and classic automobiles, motorcycles, farm implements, steam and gas tractors as well as Americana memorabilia. The pioneer village includes an array of old buildings; a shoe shop, print shop, church and Wallsburg's first mercantile established in 1890. We visited 22 buildings filled with antiques. A working sawmill demonstrated the process of cutting a log into planks. We watched a Tractor Pulling Contest with antique tractors demonstrating their power

## TEMPLE FORK CHAPTER - Logan, Utah



*Cassandra Collard*

Greetings from beautiful Cache Valley. We had a fantastic meeting in August that was held at the Logan County Club. Following a great meal our speaker and guest was Ms. Cassandra Collard who works for the National Fish and Wildlife Service and is based at the Bear River Bird Refuge. We learned the early pioneer history of the Great Salt Lake wetlands and the important role they play in waterfowl and migratory birds. This area was nearly lost to water in the Bear River being diverted to irrigation and other uses. Residents in Box Elder County, sportsmen and many other concerned parties came together to find a solution in the 1930's. Today because of working together the area has been restored and is visited by millions of waterfowl and songbirds each year. Daily tours are available to the public at the refuge.

## TIMPANOGOS CHAPTER - American Fork, Utah



*James Kearl*

The Holy Land has been dedicated twelve times for the gathering of Israel. At the August meeting of the Timpanogos Chapter, James Kearl traced nearly 150 years of Church history in Jerusalem and showed just how important the Lord's work there continues to be. James took the chapter back to 1840, when Orson Hyde saw himself in vision preaching to the Jews in Europe and Jerusalem. With the support of Joseph Smith and the Church, Hyde began an 18,500-mile journey. On October 24, 1841, he climbed the Mount of Olives and offered a prayer dedicating the land for the gathering of the Jewish people. That prayer began a remarkable Church connection to the Holy Land. James described the dedicatory prayers that followed, the Hebrew translation of the Book of Mormon, the creation of the Jerusalem Branch, the Orson Hyde Memorial Garden, and the establishment of the BYU Jerusalem Center. He also shared President Howard W. Hunter's reminder that Jews and Arabs are both children of Abraham and children of promise. After twelve dedicatory prayers, James said with a smile, "So I assume this is serious!" His presentation left the chapter with a powerful reminder that the gathering of Israel is not simply part of the past. The Lord's work in Jerusalem is still unfolding.

## UPPER SNAKE RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER - Rexburg, Idaho



*Ninette Galbraith*

**PIONEER FIRESIDE.** Our annual Pioneer Fireside was held on July 26th, 2026, in the Rexburg Idaho Center Stake building. This fireside is co-hosted by the Upper Snake River Valley Chapter and the Rexburg-Madison County Historical Society. The speaker this year was Ninette Galbraith, from local pioneer heritage and an adjunct faculty member of the Political Science Department of BYU-Idaho.

**TREK:** Our local chapter sponsored a trek to Bannack State Park on August 3rd, 2026. Twenty-two members and spouses loaded into vans and personal cars to enjoy this daytrip to an authentic For those who were unable to go on the trek, here is a fun 2 1/2-minute presentation about Bannack State Park on YouTube HERE.

**MADISON COUNTY FAIR:** We had a booth at the Madison County fair. Volunteers assisted on each of the following dates: Aug. 7th (Friday, 9 a.m.) - Cleaning up our booth area; Aug 12th through Aug 14th (Wednesday – Saturday. 1:00 – 6:30 p.m.) – Staffing our SUP booth; Aug 17th (Mon) taking down and cleaning up. We thank the volunteers who have signed up!

**SUMMER PICNIC:** We enjoyed fried chicken, corn-on-the-cob, potato salad, and ice cream at our Summer Picnic on August 27th, Thursday, at the pavilion of the Rexburg Idaho Center Stake building A short program came after the dinner where we showed-off our knowledge about the Events of 1776. As we discovered, 1776 was a year of amazing events—not just the signing of the Declaration of Independence!

**2026 NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT:** September 17-19, 2026, Pocatello, Idaho Theme: "Gateway to the Northwest." To register: https://www.sup1847.com/store/2022-national-encampment-shgzt