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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I want to report on some amazing events that have taken place in the Sons of Utah Pioneers organization since our last Trail Marker newsletter.

I was so privileged to have joined many Sons of Utah Pioneers and their spouses on a 10-day National TREK. We traveled to many historic sites where our pioneer ancestors were gathered prior to their journey to the Salt Lake Valley. I learned of their faith and resilience, which was necessary to endure the many hardships and sorrows they faced. I also learned of the joy and love that they experienced as they worked together to sustain each other in remaining faithful to their cause. We do not need to look to Hollywood movies to find heroes; we only need to look to our own ancestors. To them, I give great thanks for pressing on and defying all odds. The pioneers paved the way for each of us to have a better life.

This past month, we also had the National Area Vice President Training, leadership training by the AVPs for chapter leadership, and a National Headquarters clean-up day. I am so grateful for each of you and the amazing example that you are to me.

I attended several chapter meetings this past month from Ogden to Salt Lake to Hurricane. I have never been around a better group of men and women in any other organization or in any other setting. Each of you are my current day heroes! Thank you for pressing on and defying all odds while carrying a contagious spirit of joy.

Thank you to all my brothers and sisters who diligently plan, execute, and participate in so many instrumental Sons of Utah Pioneer activities.

Val

Val Parrish | 2025 National President

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NATIONAL NEWS

2024 NATIONAL SUP TREK

WHAT A WONDERFUL ADVENTURE. I extend a big thank you Bruce Stewart who led us through an historical and amazing TREK to Independence, Liberty Jail, Far West, Hawn's Mill, Adam-ondi-Ahman, Nauvoo, Carthage Jail, John Johnston's farm, Joseph Smith's Home and Kirtland, to name a few locations 😊. We were able to go to the temples in Nauvoo and Kirtland and even made a stop in Springfield, Illinois to learn about Abraham Lincoln. Mary Ellen Elggren organized this trip and her narration along the way was inspiring. We try to do national TREKS every other year, so keep your eyes open for the next adventure. What a great way to get to know and love fellow Sons and Daughters of Utah Pioneers. Who joined this trek? … LaMar & Susan Adams, Brent Bassett, Greg & Pam Brown, Dan & Lila Cripps, Sharrif & Nanette Dajany, John & Mary Ellen Elggren, Todd & Rosella Grant, Bob Gurr, Burke & Marcene Hamilton, Rod & Carolyn Mills, Doug & Jenette Nielsen, Val & Allison Parrish, Kent & Lynene Petersen, Bruce & Lynnette Stewart, Alan & Connie Turner, and Paul Wright … yes, we are now best friends forever.









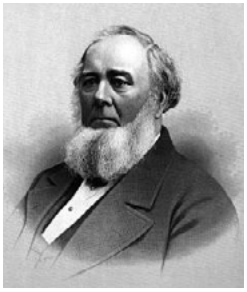

FALL HQ CLEAN-UP DAY

A big thanks goes out to all who participated in the National Headquarters Clean-up day. Carpets were cleaned, leaves and debris were removed from around the building, and a nice hot dog lunch was enjoyed by everyone in attendance. If you were not able to make this fun event, know that we will be having another clean-up day in April. See you there!




PIONEER STORIES

THE CHICKEN EGG PROPHESIES AT BEAR LAKE



Charles C. Rich



Joseph C. Rich

Elder Charles C. Rich colonized the Bear Lake region in September of 1863, settling at present day Paris Idaho, with six wives and thirty children. He diligently persevered in the face of severe winters, poor harvests, delicate Indian relations, and isolation. As an Apostle, he supervised both the religious and secular lives of Bear Lake settlers that joined his family for over two decades.[1]

In a Regional Conference Elder Rich chose to speak about the divine role of a Prophet, and at the end of his talk added the line, "The Lord has not yet resorted to delivering his communications through the hind end of a chicken."

The odd statement comes from the following account:

Apostle Rich's son, Joseph C. Rich, was running a mercantile store and had come up with a clever marketing ploy to get people into the store. His father was gone several days a week to meet in Salt Lake with the First Presidency and the Quorum of the Twelve, but one particular time Joseph knew his father would be leaving on assignment and wouldn't be back for a couple of weeks.

At the settlement a Sister Clifton had a Plymouth Rock Hen which laid enormous brown eggs. Joseph had found himself some invisible writing chemical and was writing passages of scripture and bits of philosophy on the brown eggs. Then one morning, as a demonstration to a few customers, put an egg into a solution that appeared to be plain water, and while submerged, writing appeared like magic. Within a few days a crowd had gathered at the doors of his store anxious to see for themselves. Each day, he took an egg out of the basket, and produced the same effect. After a week, half of the entire settlement was waiting at the doors each morning to see what soon was being known as "miraculous." By the time his father returned to Bear Lake the inscriptions on the eggs where being referred to as "prophecies" of things to come, in which the Apostle was forced to investigate and expose his son's deception to the community.[2]

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1 - richcountyut.org/wp-content/uploads/Charles-C.pdf

2 - Joseph C. Rich - Versatile Pioneer on the Mormon Frontier, 199-200



Paris, Idaho Tabernacle and Charles C. Rich Monument

Monument Trek



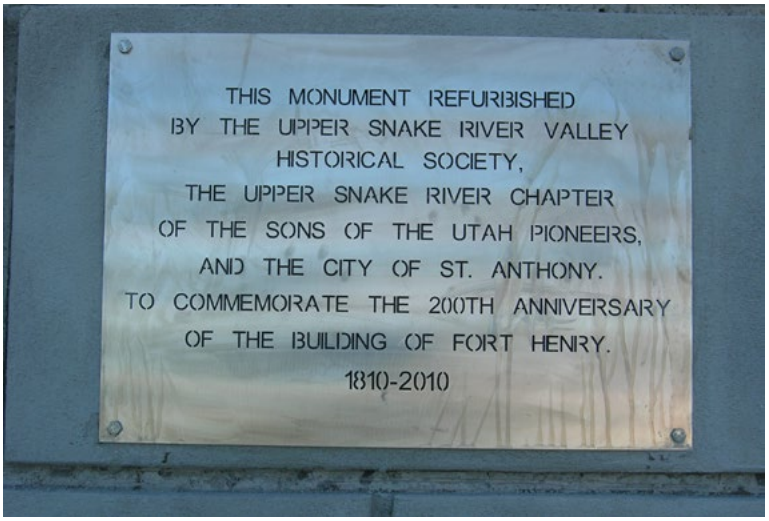
Fort Henry Monument

ST. ANTHONY, FREMONT COUNTY, IDAHO | UPTLA #40
GPS: N43 57 53.96 W111 40 53.46 ELEVATION 4978 FEET (43.9649889, -111.6815167)

The Utah Pioneer Trails and Landmarks Association Fort Henry monument, standing since 1934 and rebuilt by the Upper Snake River Valley Chapter in 2011.It is located on the southwest side of Clyde Keefer Memorial Park on the south side of the Henry's Fork of the Snake River, in downtown St. Anthony, Idaho, on the east side of Bridge Street.

The monument memorializes Captain Andrew Henry and his companions of the Missouri Fur Company building Fort Henry in the fall of 1810 located on the left bank of Henry's Fork of the Snake River. These are considered the first buildings erected by Americans in what is now the State of Idaho. The fur company abandoned the building in the spring of 1811 and then reoccupied in October that same year by Wilson Price Hunt and the Overland Astorians on their journey by water to Astoria. At Cauldron Linn on the Snake River near the site of Milner Dam, the Astorians proceeded their journey by land arriving at Astoria February 15, 1812.

Andrew Henry was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, around 1775. He died on January 10, 1832, at the age of 56 and was buried in Bennett Bryan Cemetery in Washington County, Missouri. Henry is famous for his participation in the Western Fur Trade, his role in establishing the Missouri Fur Company and the Rocky Mountain Fur Company, and his association with men like Manuel Lisa and William H. Ashley.







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 ANNUAL MEMBERS

S David Andrew . . . . . WorldWide Pioneer
Dwight Blackburn . . . . . Temple Quarry
Del Bowler . . . . . Centerville
Dean D Briggs . . . . . Morgan Pioneer
Eddie Burnside . . . . . Temple Fork
Thaddeus Call . . . . . WorldWide Pioneer
Charles W Carter . . . . . Salt Lake Pioneer
Scott Cawley . . . . . Ogden Pioneer
William Clayton . . . . . Temple Quarry
Charles Dahlquist . . . . . Cotton Mission
Robert Empey . . . . . Eagle Rock
Nathan Garlick . . . . . Lehi
Hugh Hall . . . . . Porter Rockwell
John Walter Hamilton . . . . . Settlement Canyon
Duane Lemley . . . . . Squaw Peak
Corwin Lewis . . . . . Brigham Young
Eric Linford . . . . . Cotton Mission
Fulton Marshall . . . . . Washington DC Area
Matthew McGhie . . . . . Washington DC Area
Todd Newman . . . . . Bear River
Clyde W Perry . . . . . Ogden Pioneer
Ed Seegmiller . . . . . Cotton Mission
Alan Shields . . . . . Hurricane Valley
Dwayne Vance . . . . . Pioneer Heritage-Canyon Rim

NAME . . . . . CHAPTER

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Douglas Cardon . . . . . Ogden Valley

CHAPTER ETERNAL MEMBERS

Randall Mackey . . . . . Salt Lake Pioneer
Karl N Snow . . . . . Brigham Young
Stan Allen . . . . . Temple Fork
Curtis E Smout . . . . . Ogden Pioneer



FOR CHAPTER RECOGNITION & EXCELLENCE AWARD FORMS & OTHER CHAPTER RESOURCES, CLICK HERE.

Calendar of Events

Chapter Leadership Training meetings will be held in November. Those invited will receive an email invitation.

BRIGHAM YOUNG CHAPTER - Provo, Utah



Richard D. Hanks

Marion D. Hanks, also known as Duff, lived a life filled with faith, service, and devotion. After losing his father at a young age, Duff's mother raised him with limited resources. Despite these challenges, he excelled in sports, especially basketball, and was recruited by the University of Utah twice. However, his commitment to his faith and family led him to prioritize playing church basketball with his brother and ultimately to serve a mission.

Following his mission, Hanks enlisted in the Navy during WWII, where he served as an acting chaplain. In a pivotal interview, Hanks was reminded to keep Christ central in his life, a lesson he carried throughout his ministry. During his service in Hawaii, he met his future wife, and after the war, the two married.

Hanks dedicated his career to church service and education. He held multiple leadership roles, including in the First Council of the Seventy, Temple Square's director and later as Salt Lake Temple president. He advocated for innovative ideas, like early morning seminary, YSA wards, and humanitarian aid initiatives. His influence on missionary service included a focus on community outreach and service.

Richard Hanks recalls his father's reverence for others, inspired by examples like President David O. McKay's humility. Elder Hanks encouraged others to work hard, show respect, and live with Christ-like generosity and compassion.

CEDAR CITY CHAPTER - Cedar City, Utah



Garth Green Speaking to Group

On Saturday, October 12, our Cedar City mayor, Garth Green, led us on a trek to the Ashdown Sawmill up Cedar Canyon. The Ashdown family has a long history in the canyon, homesteading hundreds of acres of land, where they raised sheep and engaged in many other activities including running a sawmill there for many years. Not much is left of the sawmill, but the ruins of the cabin which housed the crew and the old boiler which blew up killing one of the workers is still there. Several members of the Ashdown family joined Garth in giving an overview of their history followed by grilling hamburgers for lunch.

We invite everyone to our symposium on November 1- 2, topic: John C. Fremont – Early Explorations, Parowan Experience, and Political Activities. Speakers at the Rock Church in Cedar City at 6pm on Friday evening November 1. It will be followed by a trek on Saturday to the Parowan monument, Buckskin Flat at Fremont Wash, and Fremont Valley and petroglyphs led by Al Matheson.

COTTON MISSION CHAPTER - St George, Utah



T.C. Christensen

Filmmaker T.C. Christensen was the speaker at our November dinner meeting. Using his usual jovial and dynamic speaking style, he guided us through his recent film "Escape from Germany." In 1939, Hitler's army was closing borders, and eighty-five American missionaries were in Germany serving the church. The escape of these missionaries from Nazi Germany is one of the most dramatic events to occur in modern church history.

He took us behind the scenes of special aspects of the filming while he showed clips from the movie. It was a fun and intriguing evening.

HURRICANE CHAPTER - Hurricane, Utah



Roland Lee



Pine Valley Chapel



Trek

September's Activities: Our chapter had several activities this month. The first being a trek to Old Iron Town and other historic sites along the way. We had a great crowd of near 30 people attend. Wayne Kendall Hinton, a native of Hurricane, and a professor of History at SUU in Cedar City, was our guide as we visited Old Iron Town, Hebron and the Hebron Cemetery, Terry's Ranch, and the oldest operating LDS Chapel in use at Pine Valley!

Our Dinner meeting was also exceptional, as we had the privilege to gather at the Red Brick Church and have a marvelous potluck dinner, and listen to Roland Lee, a watercolor artist extraordinaire from St. George. His specialty is painting historic sites and places all around southern Utah, specializing on the iconic monoliths of Zion Canyon. His presentation centered on the pioneer history of the Washington County area and he displayed pictures of the places he talked about. It was an amazing evening, spent with amazing people. How grateful we should be for each and every member of the wonderful Hurricane Valley Chapter of the Sons of Utah Pioneers.

The last event of September was the National Encampment that was held in American Fork. The treks were informative and entertaining, the speakers were interesting, with one of them being Apostle D. Todd Christoffersen. We also had the changing of the guard, as President Nate Pierce became the past-president, turning the reins over to new President Val Parrish, with Wally Breitenstein becoming our new National President Elect. The Encampment was a wonderful success. Next year's Encampment will be held in Ogden.

October's Event: We met at the Red Brick Church on 374 S. 200 W. on Wednesday October 23rd at 6:30 p.m. The dinner was potluck, and we had the honor of listening to our brand new National President Val Parrish. He is an amazing leader who has served in many different areas in life. To meet him is to feel that you have known him as a friend for many years. He loves people and works hard to be of service wherever he is.

JORDAN RIVER TEMPLE CHAPTER - South Jordan, Utah



Boyd Knight, Carol Nuttall, Jaelynne and Kent Hathaway

Pictured are Boyd Knight, Carol Nuttall, Jaelynne Hathaway, and Kent Hathaway. Each of these individuals gave an inspiring pioneer history of someone in their personal extended family:

Boyd Knight shared some events in the life of his great great grandfather, Franklin D. Richards an early Apostle in the Church.

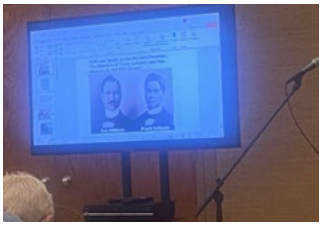
Carol Nuttall shared portions of the life of her late husband's relative, William E. Nuttall. John Taylor, of Church History fame, is a relative of William's mother.

Elder Taylor taught and baptized the whole family of Nuttalls. William eventually lived in Wallsburg, Utah where he was the local Bishop.

(Continued from Previous Page)

Kent and Jaelynne Hathaway shared elements of the lives her relatives, Dwight and Phoebe Harding. When they joined the Church, they were ostracized by their families. And when they had to leave Nauvoo, they could not sell their home or furnishings. The nearby residents just waited until they left and then helped themselves to what was left behind. An Indian tribe in Iowa helped them through the winter. When the family left for Utah, they followed the Platte River and looked for a northern route to what is now Wyoming.

MESA ARIZONA CHAPTER - Mesa, Arizona



Zoom with Stephen C. LeSueur

The Mesa Arizona Chapter held its monthly Board Meeting on October 3rd. Mesa Chapter's monthly gathering was held on Thursday, October 10th at the Evergreen Ward building in Tempe, AZ. After announcements, opening prayer, patriotic moment, Pledge of Allegiance and the Star-Spangled Banner played on trumpet by Area VP Matt Wharton, we shared a potluck dinner while treated to musical entertainment by Matt Wharton. Following dinner, we participated in a Zoom presentation by Stephen C. LeSueur, broadcasting from his home in Virginia. Stephen is a former journalist and magazine editor. His book, *The 1838 Mormon War in Missouri* (University of Missouri Press) won the 1987 Best Book award from the John Whitmer Historical Association. He and his wife, Kathy, live in Arlington, Virginia. Stephen is also the author of *Life and Death on the Mormon Frontier: The Murders of Frank LeSueur and Gus Gibbons by the Wild Bunch* and contributed a chapter to *Excavating Mormon Pasts: The New Historiography of the Last Half Century*. Stephen answered questions after his excellent presentation.

MORGAN PIONEER CHAPTER - Morgan, Utah



Ernie Durrant

On Monday October 21st, the Morgan Chapter of the Sons of the Utah Pioneers gathered its members for the October monthly luncheon. Meeting at the Rock Chapel, the pioneer minute was presented by chapter member Richard Wiscombe. He told of his early years growing up, serving a mission and his career in aviation both with the military and commercial flying. After a delicious lunch from Larry's Spring Chicken, the featured speaker was Ernie Durrant. He and his wife Lesli are both graduates of Morgan High and long-term residents of the community. Ernie served a full-time mission in the London South Mission. He and his wife have served in multiple callings in the Church including several years in the YSA Ward here in Morgan. Ernie also served as a Bishop in the Morgan Stake. In November of 2022 Ernie retired, sold his home and with his wife Lesli, headed to the Provo MTC, accepting a call to the Florida Jacksonville Mission, Deseret Cattle and Timber Ranch. They served with three other missionary couples building housing units and barns for the cowboys and families who worked on the ranch and water projects for the cattle units. Sister Durrant worked on landscaping, served in the local community, nursing homes, orphanage, food pantry and recording data from small cemeteries located on the Church farm properties. They had a wonderful experience and would have returned again this winter to do the same but that particular mission calling is no longer available. Their talents and strengths fit so well the needs of that particular mission assignment and they were able to bless the lives of many including their own. Thank you Ernie for sharing your experiences and feelings with the Chapter members.

PORTER ROCKWELL CHAPTER - Salt Lake City South, Utah



Clark Hinckley

Like the Prophet Joseph Smith, it could be said of Christopher Columbus that his name would be had for good or evil in the world. Even today, Columbus no longer enjoys a unique day of remembrance. Fortunately, members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints enjoy prophetic insights of Nephi and others into the divinely inspired mission of this great leader, whose efforts literally set in motion the processes culminating in the Restoration four centuries later. In his book, "Christopher Columbus: A Man Among the Gentiles," Clark Hinckley establishes that Columbus was a righteous man, motivated by high ideals, who knew he was being led by a greater power.

Speaking to the Porter Rockwell Chapter on September 25, Clark related how, while serving as Mission Leader in Barcelona, Spain, he was inspired to do extensive research into the life of Columbus, and his vision of a possible shorter route to east Asia, his ability to persuade King Ferdinand and Queen Isabela to equip and finance his first trip, and to gather a crew of brave sailors to accompany him. He always gave credit to the Lord for every success on his journeys. Clark's book was the culmination of this extensive research. Brother Hinckley shared many rare insights into Columbus' accomplishments. He also shared insights from Columbus' own writings regarding his true feelings about slavery, an unintended consequence of his endeavors.

Clark currently serves as a Sealer in the Jordan River Temple. He and his wife Kathleen are the parents of six children and make their home in Salt Lake City. Submitted by Ned Arnold and Jim Backman

SALT LAKE CITY CHAPTER - Salt Lake City, Utah



Jared Cornell

Our guest is Jared Cornell, a Military historian, gunsmith, historical reenactor, firearms expert, and outstanding analyst of historical facts and theories (this is an attribution from Michael Anderson's book). Jared along with Michael E. Anderson created the Utah Living History Association which aims to preserve American military history, including the Utah War. We became acquainted with Jared at the National Encampment presentation at Camp Floyd (Fairfield, Utah) recently, and he graciously consented to share his experiences, about the Utah War and the 1997 reenactment.

Jared is pictured here in 1997 entering This Is the Place Heritage Park in Salt Lake City during the Latter-day Saint pioneer trek reenactment. Twenty-seven years ago, marked the 150th anniversary of the vanguard company of Latter-day Saint pioneers entering Salt Lake Valley. Sesquicentennial events included a 1,070-mile, 93-day reenactment of the wagon trip across the Plains, leaving from Winter Quarters, now a part of Omaha, Nebraska, on April 21, 1997. Wagons followed the 1847 pioneer trail, as much as possible, through Nebraska, Wyoming and Utah. Note: The referenced book by Michael E. Anderson, titled "FOOLED EVERYBODY" THE UTAH WAR 1857-1858 is one of the most comprehensive treatments of that war. Jared was a major contributor to the book.

SALT LAKE PIONEER CHAPTER - Downtown Salt Lake City, Utah



Julie Jensen

When: November 12 at 12pm

Location: Thomas S. Monson Center,
(We are meeting in the main building while the Carriage House is under repairs. Feel free to park in the main level parking circle.)
411 E. South temple

Cost: $25 Per Person

Speaker: When Julie Jensen was young, she knew about the Hole in the Rock Pioneers from seeing the slot pass they came down the canyon while from a boat on Lake Powell but hadn't considered what didn't took place for these pioneers after that tremendous feat. Her nephews invited her and her husband Jeff to retrace the trail, that is when she realized there was much more to the story. While on this adventure she was amazed at where the brave pioneers went, and how much faith and courage they must have had. Julie will be providing us an in-depth dive into this courageous history taken from her second trip of the entire journey.

SETTLEMENT CANYON CHAPTER - Tooele, Utah



Brent Hunt

At the monthly dinner meeting of the Settlement Canyon Chapter, held on October 3, 2024 chapter members and guests were entertained and informed, by our current Chapter President, Brent Hunt who discussed Pioneer Settlers and Settlements of North Tooele County. The Pioneer Discovery of the Tooele Valley is referenced in Orson Pratt's diary, dated July, 27th 1847."

"Eight of the Twelve and several of the other started out on an exploring exhibition…. We directed our course west… Following the emigrant trail and the Great Salt Lake. We bathed in the salt water. We continued about 4 miles further; when we reached a valley putting up to the southward from the lake."

Brent discussed the settlements and founders of many Northern Tooele County locations, including ET City, Clinton's Landing, Buffalo Park, Lake Point, Benson's Mill, Richville, Milton, Bates Ranch, Batesville, Erda, Roseville, Rose Springs, Halfway House, and Stansbury Park.

TAYLORSVILLE-BENNION CHAPTER - Taylorsville, Utah



Mark Bezzant

The Taylorsville-Bennion Chapter had a change of venue for the month of October, we met at Summit Vista (3390 West Signal Peak Drive, Taylorsville) because Jim's Restaurant was closed down. We are searching for a new venue for future meetings. For our October meeting, we had Mark Bezzant from the Timpanogos Chapter present to us about scholarships and how we can recognize those students in our Chapter area for what they have accomplished and possibly give them a scholarship to help them with their future education. It was a very informative meeting. One of our members, Riley Draper, gave a pioneer moment about his ancestor James and Sarah Ferguson McDonald. It was interesting on how James had died along the way and Sarah continued on with her children to the Salt Lake Valley.

TEMPLE FORK CHAPTER - Logan, Utah



Campbell Scientific

Greetings from Cache Valley. The leaves are changing and hopefully the temperatures will soon cool. The Temple Fork chapter did not hold a meeting in September due to the annual SUP Encampment. We had multiple chapter members attend the Encampment and oh what a great Encampment it was. We also had a trek in late August and toured the Campbell Scientific facility in Logan Utah. They design and manufacture many types of equipment to monitor the environment we all live in.