

Trail Marker

Official Newsletter of the National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers
May 2005

Honoring Modern Pioneers

The Salt Lake Pioneer Chapter recently honored two modern pioneers and one historic pioneer. The modern pioneers were Pope John Paul II and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Pope John Paul II was honored for his pioneering efforts in Poland, in bringing down the Berlin Wall, and in aiding the poor. Standing in for the Pope to receive a special framed certificate was Father Elliott from the Cathedral of the Madeline in Salt Lake.



Reverend Patrick H. Elliott, left, with L. Todd Olsen, receiving and presenting the award to Pope John Paul II.



L-R: Reverend Patrick H. Elliott, Parochial Vicar of the Cathedral of the Madeleine, receiving the award for Pope John Paul II; Chieko Okazaki, who read the citation for Jane Elizabeth Manning; and Grant E. Barton, national president-elect of the SUP.

Chapter president Barnard Silver also arranged honors for Martin Luther King Jr. for King's pioneering of human rights and "opening of the doors of opportunity to all of God's children." Prominent black pioneer Jane Elizabeth Manning James, was similarly honored, with former Church Relief Society counselor, Chieko Okazaki, providing a verbal tribute. |



L-R: Barnard Silver, president of Pioneer Chapter; TamuSmith, representing Jane Elizabeth Manning; L. Todd Olsen, national SUP president; Willard O'Neill, descendant of Greene Flake and Samuel Chambers, Utah pioneer of 1847, receiving the plaque for Martin Luther King, Jr.

L-R: Chieko Okazaki and Tamu Smith, presenting and receiving the award to Jane Elizabeth Manning.



Announcement by the President

I would like to welcome all of you to your new national newsletter. I am hoping that this electronic format will become a showcase for each of your chapters to share with the rest of this great organization the things that make your chapter dynamic. If you have events or activities that were worthwhile, please share them with the rest of us by emailing them to Reed Farnsworth, our Newsletter editor (NSSUP@Hotmail.com) by the end of each month. Have you had an outstanding speaker or program? Share that as well. Have you taken a trek to a special place that your chapter has kept a secret all these years? Contact Reed and let us in on it. Can you think of any tips on recruiting new members, or reactivating less active members? Please pass along what ever information you would like to share with the rest of the organization. The only way to make this newsletter work is with the help of all of you. Again thanks for this opportunity to serve.

J. Todd Olsen
President

Website and Newsletter Editors Approved

SUP Director of Communications, J. LaMar Anderson, is pleased to announce that at the April Board Meeting, Merrill Lofthouse was approved to be the Webmaster of the SUP web site: <http://www.sonsofutahpioneers.org>. The web site has since been updated to include a list of current SUP chapters with the names and addresses of the club presidents. The national SUP officers list has also been updated. Merrill can be reached by phone at 801-209-5013 or by email at Merrill@Lofthouse.com.

At this same board meeting, Reed Farnsworth was approved to be the SUP newsletter editor. Reed can be reached by phone at 801-358-8613 or by email at NSSUP@Hotmail.com or Reed@Farnsworth.US. Articles for consideration for the newsletter should be sent to Reed at this email address *by the end of each month* for inclusion in the following month's newsletter.

Meeting of Chapter Presidents and Presidents-Elect

Sixty Chapter presidents and presidents-elect gathered April 16th at the National Headquarters to voice their opinions about issues confronting the organization.

Leadership

President J. Todd Olsen encouraged the leaders to nominate strong candidates for area vice presidents, and suggested names for a new Executive Manager. He introduced the leaders to the new monthly electronic

newsletter, and asked chapters to share their successes and good ideas by the end of each month by sending information and pictures to the newly-selected Editor, Reed Farnsworth at NSSUP@Hotmail.com or Reed@Farnsworth.us .
A list of the email addresses of chapter leaders to receive the newsletter should be sent as soon as possible to Reed by each chapter.

Pioneer Magazine Endowment Fund

Kent Lott (Pioneer Magazine Publisher, Past President) reported on the progress of the Pioneer Magazine Endowment fund (Goal: \$150,000. Donation Total: \$75,000). He challenged each chapter officer to give a gift subscription to the Pioneer Magazine by October 1st of this year. Kent also updated leaders to the organization financial review by Marion Wittwer and Ted Davis, who found that funds are being handled properly. Recommended changes in the formatting of the monthly financial reports and the procedure for handling checks to the Pioneer Magazine are now being implemented.

Encampment and Landmarks

L. Stewart Radmall (National Director of Trails and Landmarks), referring to the National Encampment, said a new registration form is in the Pioneer Magazine with corrected prices and tours. An SUP plaque will be placed on a building at Mormon Hollow, in which Joseph Smith preached.

Settlement Canyon Chapter Recognized

Grant E. Barton (President-Elect) highlighted great work by the Settlement Canyon Chapter. The chapter provides the manpower and the displays for a City-financed pioneer museum, including a complete Conestoga Wagon, handcarts, buggies, cream separator, and many other valuable heirlooms from the pioneer era. The facility also provides the board with a place to meet. The chapter also has an on-going project of helping maintain the Tooele City cemetery.

Membership Growth

Grant highlighted the growth of the Sons of Utah Pioneers. President Lott' Goal last year was 200 new members. The actual number of new members in 2004 exceeded the goal, and totaled 221.

Self-Study Commission

Grant also introduced the idea that many organizations periodically perform an audit of their mission, by-laws and operations. He proposed such a Self-Study Commission for the SUP, with a majority of the representatives being drawn from current or recent chapter leaders. The commission will meet semi-monthly for approximately six months and make recommendations to the National Board. Several of the assembled chapter leaders individually expressed support for the idea, then voted unanimously in favor of it.

Nominations for candidates to the commission should be directed by the end of May to grantebarton@yahoo.com

The bulk of the meeting was turned over to the chapter presidents and presidents-elect, who expressed some feelings about elections and the scope of the organization. These items will be scrutinized by the Self-Study Commission. Much discussion revolved around current Executive Manager Frank Brown. In the end, the chapter leaders voted that Frank should continue to fill out his present assignment until the end of the year.

RECOMMENDATION FOR EXECUTIVE MANAGER

Recommendations are being sought for a part-time (15-20 hours/wk) executive manager. Duties include:

- 1) **Supervision** of the administrative assistant, a janitor and volunteers
- 2) **Training** of new leaders in groups and as individuals
- 3) **Communication:** Agendas, minutes, correspondence, email & telephone
- 4) **Finances:** Keep records, pay bills, rent building, secure magazine ads
- 5) **Materials:** Print brochures & certificates, prepare awards

The successful candidate should live in the Salt Lake Valley, be a congenial team worker, have administrative and computer skills, and be a self-starter.

Please make recommendation by the end of May to a member of the search committee: Frank Madsen (801.277.7688), Orson Wright (801.278.6119), Grant Barton (801.756.4227) or Kent Meyers (435.865.9509).

SALARY: \$8,280/YR.

Top Recruiting Chapters of 2004

Remember: we only count a man as a new member when the National Office receives his application and dues.

- Membership growth in 2004 was 221 new members (Goal was 200).
- New chapters in Morgan (21 new members) and Lehi (19 new members)
- Fastest growing chapters in 2004: Box Elder (13), Cotton Mission (13), Holladay (11) Sevier Valley (8), Mesa (7), Ogden Pioneer (7), Cedar City (7), Mills (7) & Red Rock (7)
- **2005 Goal: 250 NET member increase** (New members less dropouts due to missions/ health/death).

Highlights from Chapter Newsletters

From the Grove City Chapter newsletter (Blackfoot, Idaho):

PIONEER MAGAZINE PLACEMENT

Jesse Williams has placed 15 past copies of the Pioneer magazines, donated by chapter members, in some of the local professional offices (i.e. doctors, dental and attorneys offices). If you have additional copies of the Pioneer magazine that you would like to donate to this effort, please bring them to the next chapter meeting and give them to Jesse Williams.

From the Sevier Valley Chapter newsletter (Richfield, Utah):

There have been many of our members who have commented about the interest they have in the recent issues of the Pioneer Magazine. Don't miss any issues of the magazine by keeping your membership current. The current issue featuring Indians (Lamanites) and their relationship with the Prophet Joseph Smith and other leader of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints continues the tradition of Excellence.

What is the Trail Marker?

A Tool for SUP Leaders

We hope that this will become a treasure trove of information that will help you in your efforts as local leaders of SUP Chapters. The Trail Marker is only sent to SUP leaders who have given us their email addresses. We would like to make sure EVERY chapter and national leader is on our list. At this time, we know that we are missing many important email addresses.

We hope that whoever receives the Trail Marker in each chapter will forward it quickly to all members of their chapter leadership. While the Trail Marker is not intended for general distribution to all SUP members, chapters are welcomed and encouraged to include any parts of the Trail Marker that they feel would benefit their general membership into their local newsletters.

We encourage all chapters to send electronic or printed copies of your chapter newsletters to Reed Farnsworth (see contact information below) by the end of each month for inclusion in the following month's edition.

Plans and Flexibility

We are still in the formative stages of developing the newsletter. We are not sure yet if it will be a monthly, bi-monthly, or quarterly publication. We have ideas of what to include, but we welcome your suggestions and input. Some

ideas we have for future editions include training tips, trek ideas, reports on outstanding speakers and events, questions and answers, news and information from the National Board and from chapters. Tell us what you want and need.

History

The name for the newsletter, the Trail Marker, comes from the buffalo skulls left by Brigham Young and other pioneers along the trail to Utah. The buffalo skulls contained messages for those who followed. They gave direction and guidance. Finding trail markers confirmed to those who read them that they were on the right track. Such is the purpose and vision of our newsletter. Parts of the Trail Marker will be messages from our national leaders. Parts of it will be messages from our local chapter leaders. All of it will be messages to help each other in reaching our common goals.

The Pioneer magazine is and will continue to be a formal periodical embracing and honoring our pioneer heritage and shared with the world. The Trail Marker will be a more informal publication designed for the interchange of ideas. Your contributions will help lead the way for others.

Future

Next issue, we hope to include a segment on things chapters can do to build their membership. We would like to hear from you. Please tell us what you have done to build membership in your chapter. If you have any ideas that you think others can benefit from, please share them with us!

Format

To begin with, we will try emailing the Trail Marker in Word format as an attachment. Please let us know if this doesn't work well for you.

**NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE
SONS OF UTAH PIONEERS
NEWSLETTER**

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