

Trail Marker

PIONEERING YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW

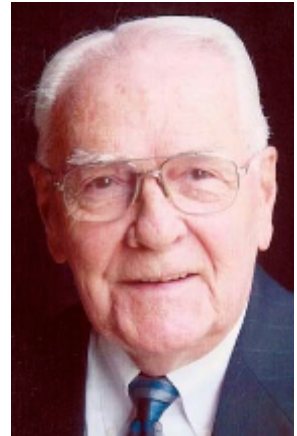
Official Newsletter of the National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers™

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Dear Friends,

The New Year appears to be off to a great start. Our training sessions are progressing well with good participation. I want to commend our AVPs for their great efforts in carrying out these training sessions. I would be remiss in not recognizing the great contributions that our National Program Directors have made in providing the guidelines for each of the areas of our chapters functions. In many cases they have traveled to the training meetings to provide their expertise face to face.

One of the primary reasons for our Diamond Jubilee Fund drive was to provide funds to paint and re-carpet the library and office space at National Headquarters. That work has been completed and all agree it has made an outstanding improvement. Now, the second part was to fund the statue "Eyes Westward" to be placed in "This is the Place Heritage Park". We need the immediate and generous efforts of all members, chapters and friends as we are required to make a substantial down payment to the foundry before they will start the casting process. We really want to be able to dedicate this monument in conjunction with "The Days of '47" celebration. Please help us reach that deadline.



By the time you read this our 2008 Commemorative Coins will be available. This year our theme is the 75th anniversary of The Sons of Utah Pioneers. The coin features a relief of our headquarters building. I know you will want to add this one to your collection. The bronze coins make a great gift to prospective members. We have been able to hold the line on the price in spite of a wildly fluctuating precious metals market.

We have an exciting new program quickly developing in connection with our website. You will be getting the details soon. Watch for them.

Please keep up your efforts on our membership drive. Remember why you took Dil Strasser's dollar bill with the inscription "The power of one".

Booth Maycock
2008 National President

NATIONAL SUP LIBRARY AND OFFICE RENOVATION. After **25 years**, the **carpet** in the SUP Library and Office area was replaced this past month. The laying of the new carpet was preceded by a professional **painting** of the walls and ceilings of these areas. Thanks to the help of several men from nearby

chapters, the furniture, artwork and equipment were all moved from the library and office to the Heritage Room while the refurbishing took place, and then moved back in a rearranged fashion. The result is a **much improved appearance** of our National Building as we celebrate the **75th year** since the Sons of Utah

Pioneers was organized. We know you will be pleased when you visit the building and see the improvements that have been made.

“EYES WESTWARD” STATUE APPROVED FOR PLACEMENT AT THIS IS THE PLACE

HERITAGE PARK. In 2005, the original statue of **Joseph Smith and Brigham Young** looking westward and holding a map of a city of Zion in the West (*shown at right*) was placed on the banks of the Mississippi River in **Nauvoo**. The sculptor, Dee Jay Bawden, has agreed to provide an identical statue to the Sons of Utah Pioneer for placement at **This is the Place Heritage Park**.

Plans are underway to have the statue erected and dedicated during the **summer of 2008**. The cost to the SUP of the statue is \$28,000, the foundry cost. It is estimated that another \$10,000 will be required for the landscaping. We are excited to **add this statue** to the historic area that defines the place where the Utah Pioneers entered the Salt Lake Valley in 1847.

DIAMOND JUBILEE MONUMENT AND BUILDING RENOVATION FUND. In order to fund the Monument and the extensive Building renovation, we are inviting each SUP member and each Chapter to be part of this Anniversary celebration **by contributing monies for their completion**. Since it is the 75th year, we suggest a contribution by members of **\$75** and by chapters of **\$750**. We have already had over \$20,000 contributed, including monies from three chapters.

Since the expenditures for these projects must be

paid in advance, we encourage Chapter Presidents to **announce** the Fund and make sure members have a copy of the donation flyer. For members donating **\$1,500** or more, a 13 inch **replica** of the Eyes Westward statue will be presented to them. Other recognitions will be presented to those contributing \$750-\$1,500, for



those donating \$75-\$750 and for those donating less than \$75. **All contributions are tax deductible.** We encourage **all** members to become involved. **No gift is too small!!**

2006-2007 CHAPTER AWARD REPORTS ARE

DUE. The first chapter awards under the new **Chapter Award** program will be presented at the Chapter President's Council meeting to be held on **Saturday, April 19** in the National Building. The first awards will cover the time period of **July 1, 2006 to December 31, 2007**. Subsequent awards will cover each **calendar year**.

In order to determine which chapters receive an award, the **quarterly award**

report form needs to be submitted to our Executive Manager, Ron VanLeuven. Those chapters who have not completed and submitted one or more of these quarterly forms are encouraged to do so before **February 15, 2008**. **Minimum chapter standards** have been established for 2008.

We encourage chapter boards to consider these standards when they establish their 2008 goals. A **special awards banner** will be presented to each chapter in April on which year plates can be placed to depict the awards received.

INSPIRATIONAL PIONEER STORIES.

It's almost here! The Sons of Utah Pioneers will soon have a place on their website (sonsofuthapioneers.org) for people to submit their **pioneer stories**. As part of our 75th anniversary, we are inviting everyone with pioneer stories to submit them to SUP so that we can create a central place for all to submit and research stories of their pioneer ancestors. The story will go online for everyone to read. A hard copy will also be placed in the SUP library. Some of the exceptional stories will also be included in future copies of the **PIONEER** magazine.

We plan to have the new website link online by March 1st. At that time, anyone with a pioneer story will be able to go online and submit their stories. This will be **free for all members of SUP**, but there will be a \$15 charge for nonmembers. For that fee, they will not only be able to submit their pioneer stories, but will also receive the Pioneer magazine for one year. They will also be able to submit multiple stories for the single fee.

So pull out your boxes and papers and start pulling things together so you can be one of the early submitters! We especially want the "little known inspirational pioneer stories" that people have had stuck in a corner where no one else has the opportunity to read them.

Here are some guidelines to help you construct your story:

- Restrict your story to four or less pages (250 to 1500 words).
- Relate something special about that pioneer that others would like to know about. He may have been a person of great faith, courage, or one with special skills, etc.
- Document your story...even if it only includes family traditions.
- We don't want any stories that are just copied from a book in a library. They can be referred to and included in your documentation, however.
- The information about the pioneer's family, birth, and when he arrived in Utah will be required at the top of the form you will fill

out online. Some essential information about the submitter will also be required.

- If stories are offensive or in obviously bad taste, they will be returned.
- It doesn't matter if your pioneer didn't come prior to May 10, 1869. Any pioneer story will be accepted if it meets these guidelines. The pioneers that came to Utah before that date will have an ox skull logo next to their names on the index so that we can recognize them.
- We are also desirous of receiving stories of "**Modern**" pioneers. There will be a place on the website for these stories to be submitted.
- We gratefully acknowledge the valuable help from Sam Farnsworth in putting this all together. He is the computer whiz that is building the website link for us.

LaRon Taylor (Director Pioneer Heritage, lrt68@justrawspeed.com)

LIFE MEMBERS PASS #2800. Each new Life Member is given a **number** and their names are placed on the Life Member boards on the walls of the **Heritage Hall**. The goal for 2007 was to add 80 life members during the year. This would mean our number would reach **2800**. This goal was reached in mid-January, 2008 as our new Membership Program Director, **Dil**



Strasser, (pictured on left) became number **2800**. We encourage all members to become part of the ongoing legacy of the SUP by becoming life members. The

cost is \$300. **No** additional annual national dues will be required for Life Members. Keep the numbers growing!!

EIGHT AREA COUNCIL TRAINING MEETINGS HELD IN JANUARY AND EARLY FEBRUARY. For the third year, training for Chapter Board members was held throughout **areas in close proximity** to our chapters. Each training meeting was under the direction of the **area vice presidents**. Over **250 board members and their wives** attended the meetings and were instructed by members of the National Executive Council, the National Program Directors, and the Area Vice Presidents. Binders containing bylaws, directives, forms and ideas were again provided to each chapter.

We feel that this training is especially important to new board members who are learning their duties. **A well-functioning board led by an enthusiastic chapter president is essential for chapter success.** The Executive Council encourages chapter presidents to share the training ideas with board members who were unable to attend the training meeting, and to follow-up on the items presented in subsequent meetings.



Idaho Training – Upper Snake River Chapter



Ogden Training



Roger Flick conducting Provo Training



Provo Training

CHAPTER NEWS

BRIGHAM YOUNG (Provo, UT) – January dinner meeting’s keynote speaker **Bill Evans**, Deputy Directory of Church Public Relations (*shown below, left with President Dave Olpin*), addressed the recent

impact of Presidential Candidate Mitt Romney on the Church. He compared it to other major public events, such as President Benson’s appointment as Secretary of Agriculture and the Olympics, . In attendance was chapter member **Lawrence Epperson** (*shown at right with Jay Smith*) who, at age 17, was one of the original charter members of SUP when it was first organized 75 years ago.



President Dave Olpin encourages each of his chapter members to be pioneers and continue to extend and



broaden this great work by using their talents and abilities daily to help build the Kingdom. That should be a challenge for members of all chapters to strive for.

The chapter program committee, consisting of **Earl Hurst, Angus Belliston and Ray Beckham**, has arranged speakers for 2008 through September. **Mr. Derek Marquis** (*shown at left*) will be the speaker in February. Derek is the Managing Director of BYU Broadcasting, which is the University's broadcast media organization. The organization has seven television stations, four radio stations and over a dozen media websites.

COTTON MISSION (St. George, UT) The chapter leadership has "hit the ground running" as they have plans to make this a great year for the SUP. Dates have been set for the full year for chapter meetings and treks. Four treks have been scheduled including a multiple day one. Other plans include an emphasis on service in the community including an expanded program in the schools. Those attending the January dinner meeting enjoyed a message given by **Larry Gardner**, a long time resident. He has been a county commissioner, a rancher, seminary teacher, stake president and a developer.

JORDAN RIVER TEMPLE (Southwest Salt Lake Valley) The guest speaker for January was **John M. Simmons** (*shown at right*), the author of a book called "**The Marvelous Journey Home**". Mr. and Mrs. Simmons have adopted children including two sisters from Russia. The book tells of the experiences they had in the process of the adoption. It is a very touching story about family loss, grieving, and, eventually understanding and joy. Mr. Simmons is a successful business man and has received many awards and honors through his career and writing. He has expressed willingness to give his message to other groups that may be interested.



THE MOUNTAIN VALLEY (Heber City, Utah) The chapter members enjoyed a spiritual feast from **Sister Chieko Okasaki** (*shown second from right below*), the



guest speaker, on Thursday, January 24th. Her theme was "Finding Peace in Jesus Christ." We can all appreciate the need to find peace in the turmoil of today's world. She told the group that we can find peace in the soothing sounds of nature such as the sound of a steam running over rocks, the sound of wind in the pine trees and even in the sound made by a "rain stick". She assured those present that we find peace in Jesus Christ and in His gospel. Sister Okasaki is truly a modern day pioneer.

OGDEN PIONEER (Ogden, UT.) The chapter is busy planning for the **2009 National Encampment** which will be held in Ogden September 17 - 19, 2009. The encampment chairman is **Morris Sterrett**, assisted by **Bill Critchlow** and **Eldon Capner**. The 2007 chapter president, **Reid Brown**, has written an article for the Pioneer Magazine on “**The history of the Ogden Pioneer Days Celebration**”. **George Adamson** has been welcomed as the new Area Vice President and **Nathan Stuart** was shown gratitude for his service in that capacity over the past few years. Because of the popularity of the chapter treks for the past couple of years the chapter plans to repeat their trek to the Shakespeare Festival and Tuacahn this summer.



During the second and third quarters of 2007 the chapter presented a Plaque and an award. The plaque (*above*) was presented by **Landmarks Chairman, M. Paul Southwick to Mayor Godfrey and City Council Chair, Jesse Garcia**. This plaque lists the settlers in Ogden in 1848. **Jay Gainer Bachman** (*right*) received the **21st Century Pioneer Recognition Award** from 2007 President Elect, **Robert H. DeBoer**.



MAPLE MOUNTAIN (Mapleton, Utah) Our January meeting featured the wife of one of our members, **Roberta James**. She shared with over thirty members and friends the story of her parents as they “pioneered” in the 1920s in Ventura County California. They were some of the first members of the LDS church in the area. With photo slides and stories, she traced the growth of the Oxnard California branch and the memories she had as a young girl growing through the depression years and World War II in this area with its military bases. Most of those in attendance could relate to these years as they corresponded with their own childhood.