

Trail Marker

Official Newsletter of the National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers™
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37 CHAPTERS REPRESENTED AT CHAPTER PRESIDENT COUNCIL MEETING

Over **sixty** leaders of the Sons of Utah Pioneers gathered at the Headquarters Building on Saturday April 22 to attend the first **Annual Spring Council Meeting**. Chapter Presidents from as far away as **Harmony, Pennsylvania** and **Mesa, Arizona** joined with Utah and Idaho leaders to receive instructions and give **counsel** to the National Officers. Only six chapters were not able to have a President or President Elect at the meeting. The breakout sessions addressed five topics: **Life Memberships, Renewals, Recruitment and Reactivation, the TrailMarker monthly newsletter, and the Annual Chapter Awards Program**. Excellent ideas were suggested that will be considered by the National Board in future meetings.

A highlight of the meeting was presentations made during the luncheon of three **Top Recruiter Awards** and two **Modern Pioneer**



Awards. The recruiter awards went to **Homer LeBaron** who recruited 18 new members in The Mountain Valley Chapter (Heber Valley), **Don Munk** who led the team who recruited **30** members to the Sevier Valley Chapter and **Jay M. Smith** who recruited 5 members to the Brigham Young Chapter, two who were in their 40s. The Modern Pioneer awards went to **Wayne Lynn**, President of the



Centerville Chapter who was a leader in the LDS Church Curriculum Planning and the Indian Seminary Program, and **Mark Ricks**, the LDS Stake President who led the Teton Flood relief effort in the 1980s and has served in the Idaho Legislature and as Area Vice President for the SUP. President Grant Barton announced a **new Top Recruiter Award** for the period **January 1 to August 1, 2006**. (See boxed announcement below).

A second **2006 Chapter Presidents Council** meeting will be held in conjunction with the National Convention to be held in Heber Valley, September 14-16, 2006.

NEW TOP RECRUITER AWARD DATES

After three Top Recruiter Awards were presented at the Chapter Presidents Council meeting, President Grant Barton announced that **additional awards** will be presented at the National Convention in September for those members who recruit or reactivate six annual members between **January 1 and August 1, 2006**. Life Members and members under 60 years of age earn double credit. The **beautiful acrylic desk award**



includes the name of the member and his chapter. All chapters should encourage its members to earn this award. Names of qualifying members should be sent to our National Program Director over Memberships, Wendell Christensen.

MARTINS COVE MEDALLIONS GOING FAST
Over half of the 2006 medallion honoring the **Martin and Willie Handcart Companies** have been sold. The retail price is \$30 for gold and \$25 for silver. A \$2 discount will be give to Chapters who order in lots

of ten or more. We still have a limited number of **2005 medallions** honoring the **Prophet Joseph Smith**. They sell at the same price. Encourage your members to have “A MEDALLION IN EVERY POCKET” during 2006 so they are reminded to tell the pioneer stories to their children and grandchildren-particularly about the Martin and Willie Handcart companies.. Orders for medallions may be sent to **Preston Hunt** at the National Headquarters.

The Bottom Line
April 22nd 2006 Chapter Presidents Council
SONS OF UTAH PIONEERS™

1. **Renew memberships by May 15th**
2. **Recruit (Especially Younger Men & Life Members) Reactivate**
3. **Present Modern Pioneer Awards**
4. **A Medallion in Every Pocket ¶“Remember Martin’s Cove”!**
5. **Quality Board Meetings & Great Speakers**
6. **Refer candidates for Executive Manager and the PR Committee**
7. **Pass on the TrailMarker to Chapter Members!**
8. **Nominate Capable National & Area Leaders**

CHAPTER NEWS

Please be sure to send your **news items and your monthly newsletter** to nssup@hotmail.com or to 2714 N. 880 E. Provo, Utah 84604. We want to feature more chapters in the TrailMarker. Tell us about special happenings in your chapter that would be of interest to other chapters.

Son and Grandson of SUP Member Honored by National Football Foundation, Utah Chapter. Daniel Benson, son of Ralph and Louise Benson and grandson of Dell Madsen (Salt Lake City Chapter) was the highest rated among students given awards. He had been named

by both Utah newspapers to the football first team All-State and was voted by his team members as the “Most Inspirational” and the “Best Student Athlete.” With a 4.0 GPA, Daniel was ranked #1 in his graduating class at Bountiful High School, where he was the Sterling Scholar in math. In addition to many activities in drama and other leadership, he served as student body president. He will be an outstanding “Pioneer of Tomorrow.”

The Cotton Mission Chapter, in a special chapter meeting in April, has awarded five scholarships to “Tomorrow’s Pioneers” – students from the high schools near them.

Each student received \$1,000 – \$500 from the SUP and a \$500 matching grant from the Presidential Freedom Scholarship Program. In addition, five fifth grade students were winners of \$20 each in the Chapter’s pioneer essay contest, writing about their own pioneer ancestors.

The Sevier Valley Chapter has arranged with KSVC Radio Station to publicize SUP activities and events on their “Perspectives” program each month – Good publicity for our organization! The chapter is providing a display case for recently discovered early Sevier County maps, to be housed in the county offices. The monthly chapter newsletter “Trail Bits” highlights one or two chapter members each month in brief biographies, which help other members become better acquainted.

Chapter Presidents all agreed at the recent meeting of the Chapter Presidents’ Council that excellent chapter meetings are a big key

to success in the SUP, and that honoring **Present-day Pioneers** is a great idea.. What is a “Present-day Pioneer? It’s someone who has made a big difference for good in your community. Where and how is the award made? In a chapter meeting where the person’s accomplishments are highlighted and praised, with members of his/her family present as guests. He/she would likely be the evening’s speaker, and the “Present-day Pioneer Award” presented. (The National Office can help you order these, for \$20 each).

Plan Ahead to feature the Martin-Willey Handcart Companies near the 150th anniversary this Fall. Not all the stories were heartbreaking. Find some inspirational stories which are uplifting and upbeat, perhaps relating to the rescue. Do you have some descendants of those pioneers, or of their rescuers, in your chapter? They may have some great personal stories to tell.

FUTURE EVENTS CALENDAR

May 18, 20	“1856: Long Walk Home” Harriet Bushman musical presentation. Assembly Hall at Temple Square, 7pm. Admission free
May 23	Same program at Provo Tabernacle, 7:30pm
May 24	Same program at Logan Tabernacle, 7:30pm
July 19	Lehi Chapter Overland Stage Coach and Dinner. \$10 per person. Contact Carl Mellor at Lehi Hotel, 801-768-0307
July 24	Sunrise Pioneer Service sponsored by Pioneer Chapter at Assembly Hall at Temple Square. 7am. Elder Merrill J. Bateman, speaker. Music by Choral Arts Society, Golden Voices Gospel Ensemble, tenor George Dyer, and concert pianist, Lawrence F. Gee. Narrator for the one hour program will be Mark Koelbel, KUTV news anchor. Admission free. Days of 47 Parade follows.
Sept. 14-16	2006 Annual Convention (Encampment) at Midway in Heber Valley. Registration material in April Pioneer Magazine and separate May mailing to SUP members.
October 14	2006 Annual SUP Historical Symposium and Dinner , “Theme: Remember Martins Cove,” 1-7pm at National Headquarters Building. Pre-registration cost \$15. (Symposium only, \$10.).

Guest Speakers

Let us know at the TrailMarker about extra-special speakers you've had in you meetings – especially, we'd like to pass on the names of those who might be invited to other chapter meetings. Here are some we have mentioned before; we need more suggestions from you:

Larry Dahl, prominent author and retired BYU professor, is available as a speaker on the Wasatch Front. He speaks eloquently of church history and was the first Director of the Nauvoo LDS Academy. (Phone 801.373.5948).

Rick Robison, President of The Mideast Source (www.mideastsource.com) is a popular speaker on the volatile Middle East. He has worked for private industry and for the U.S. Foreign Service and the CIA.

Michael Stewart, former gubernatorial candidate, BYU history professor and Chairman of the Salt Lake County Commission is available to speak on any of three themes: 1) The legal history of early Utah, 2) Joseph Smith, and the Constitution hanging by a thread, 3) Helping young people overcome their fears. (Ph. 801.533.8848).

DeLynn Heaps from the Squaw Peaks chapter has agreed to help chapters with ideas for speakers at their monthly meetings. Each month he will include two or three names of speakers who have agreed to speak at SUP chapter meetings. We encourage your chapter program director to pass on to him the names of speakers who have been especially well received by your chapter for inclusion in this section. DeLynn may be reached at 801-222-9070 or at delynnheaps@yahoo.com.

Buddy Youngreen has a wealth of experience on the topic of Joseph and Emma Smith. An author of several books on the topic, he is a member of the SUP and has traveled world-wide speaking on this and other topics. Phone number is 801-226-6561.

Roy King has spent many years in the missionary department of the LDS Church and most recently served as Temple President in Mexico City. He is especially knowledgeable on the growth of the church in Latin America and the challenges such growth has been in terms of leadership and education. Phone number is 801-253-2667.

Great Treks

We know of treks being planned by many chapters, and will look forward to hearing about them. Be sure to tell us how they turned out. Did any of you make it to Promontory Point on May 10, for the annual re-enactment of the "Wedding of the Rails?" There are some great books on this historic event, which could make good chapter talks as a book review. **Trips to SUP historic markers and monuments.** The national office is very anxious to have new pictures and descriptions of the monuments placed in the past by SUP, including the following: Early Rexburg, ID, Mormon Hollow, PA, Mormon Battalion, San Diego, Early Arizona Pioneers, Mesa, Genoa Mormon Station, Genoa, NV, Mormon Pioneer Fort, Fort Laramie, WY, Hilda Anderson, Grantsville, Ellen (Nellie) Unthank, Cedar City, Brigham Young Grave, SLC, Jacob Hamblin Home, Santa Clara. We'd like to upgrade the list published on the SUP website, www.sonsofuthapioneers.org Your help would be appreciated!

Tomorrow's Pioneers

As you honor outstanding youths during the month of May, by presenting college scholarships to those who have overcome significant personal hardships and demonstrated the pioneer virtues, please send us their brief biographies for possible publication on our website and in the Pioneer Magazine: Send to nssup@hotmail.com or to 2714 N. 880 E. Provo, UT 84604.