

Trail Marker

Official Newsletter of the National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers
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HISTORICAL SYMPOSIUM A GRAND SUCCESS!

Over two hundred people attended the 2005 Sons of Utah Pioneers Historical Symposium, held at the SUP National building. Four speakers illuminated how Joseph Smith Jr. was truly a pioneer – which was the theme of the conference. Attendees were delighted with musical skits and original pioneer songs from entertainers between sessions. Five people received Modern Pioneer Awards, including Senator Orrin Hatch. In the evening, attendees heard from after-dinner speaker Elder M. Russell Ballard. The event received media coverage, including a 2/3 page spread in the Church News.

(Pictured left to right – 2005 National President J. Todd Olsen, and Angus Belliston look on as National 2005 President-elect Grant Barton presents gold SUP Medallion to Elder and Sister M. Russell Ballard.)



SPEAKERS: (Shown in photos above from left to right in order of appearance) The Keynote speaker was Grant E. Barton, 2005 SUP President-Elect, followed by Robert J. Matthews, Retired Dean of the BYU College of Religious Instruction; John A. Peterson, Instructor at the U of U Institute of Religion; Ronald K. Esplin, Managing Editor of the Joseph Smith papers, and his associate Jeffrey N. Walker.

MODERN PIONEER AWARDS: Those receiving Modern Pioneer Awards were:



Ray H. and Helen G. Barton, (Ray at left with award) for their work in pioneering scripture distribution and for teaching 150,000 school children the horrors of smoking and drinking.

Orson D. Wright DDS, (right) for his work in helping shape the Sons of Utah Pioneers for almost two-thirds of its history, including his work with SUP scholarships.





John H. Morgan Jr., (above, left) for establishing the World Senior Games in St. George Utah, and for arranging over 70 youth scholarships.

Robert & Susan Roylance, (above, center, with award) for teaching half a million African children to avoid AIDS, and for helping farmers to prosper, so they can adopt AIDS orphans.

Senator Orrin G. Hatch, (above, right) for publicly defending family values and God-ordained constitutional rights in challenging, highly visible government councils.

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS COUNCIL MEETING

November 5 was a busy day at the National Headquarters Building. In the morning, President J. Todd Olsen met with the SUP Chapter Presidents in a Presidents Council Meeting.

SUGGESTED GOALS FOR 2006:

Grant E. Barton, President-Elect for 2006, announced six 2006 goals:

1. **1,000 Ancestral Histories:** Suggested minimum: 20 – 40 per chapter. 1–2 pages in length. Histories memorialized in the SUP National Library and hopefully on a revised, expanded SUP website. Other heritage preservation: 6 new monuments.
2. **Honor 200 Modern Pioneers:** Suggested minimum: 5 per chapter. Beautiful acrylic awards are available through McGee Trophies for \$20 each, including inscription (801-226-7890 or www.rubberstamp-awards.com)
3. **Teach children pioneer values:** Every week, SUP members teach a child or grandchild a pioneer story, specially noting eternal values the pioneers lived (and often died) by.
4. **2006 members in 2006:** Suggested net chapter growth: 20%. Nationally: 6 new chapters, 200 new members, 200 reactivated members.
5. **Training:** Every Area Vice President and Chapter Board member well-trained.
6. **Finances:** Cut the 2005 budget deficit in half. Pioneer Magazine endowment: \$125,000.

A presentation was then made to the Council of the proposed new Bylaws and their impact upon the organizational structure of the SUP. After discussion, the Council gave a unanimous positive voice of support for the new Bylaws. An open forum was conducted by President Olsen after which the Council adjourned for the Annual Historical Symposium.

NATIONAL BOARD APPROVES NEW SUP BYLAWS

After several months of meetings and study and input from many members of the Society, the SUP Self Study Commission that had been established by President Olsen presented a set of revised Bylaws to the National Board on November 8, 2006 for approval. Preliminary drafts had been circulated to Board Members and Summaries of the Principal Changes were sent to the Chapter Presidents. The National Board unanimously approved the new Bylaws which will go into effect January 1, 2006. The new Bylaws place increased emphasis on strengthening chapters through improved training in Area Councils and election of Area Vice Presidents by

chapter members. The National Board will consist of elected Area Vice Presidents and an Executive Council of three individuals: the Current National President, the Immediate Past National President, and the President-Elect. National Program Directors will meet in council with the Executive Council each month and assist in the training. The new structure should lead to a stronger organization at all levels.



Self Study Members (L to R. Back Row) Grant Orton, Glenn Davis, Nathan Stuart, Gary Bowen, Rex Bennion, Bill Anderson, Ariel Knowles, Elliot Cameron. Front Row: Jay Smith, Grant Barton (Chair) Angus Belliston (Assistant Chair), Cliff Spendlove, Bob Bohn (deceased)

GIVE THE PIONEER MAGAZINE THIS CHRISTMAS

Remember the gift special for the Pioneer Magazine--Just \$12 for a new one year subscription to the Pioneer Magazine. This is an easy way to give a lasting gift for this Christmas season. This offer is good until this Christmas. Then the regular price of \$15 will apply to all subscriptions.

Six easy ways for a chapter to promote the Pioneer Magazine:

1. Give a gift subscription to your guest speakers and those who present musical numbers at your chapter meetings.
2. Give gift subscriptions as birthday presents.
3. Give gift subscriptions to widows of deceased chapter members.
4. In lieu of flowers, give a gift to the Pioneer Magazine endowment fund in honor of your chapter members who pass on.
5. Seek out libraries and schools in your community who would be willing to receive a gift subscription.
6. Place copies of the magazine in the offices of doctors, dentists, attorneys, etc. National will be happy to supply you with copies for this purpose.

CHAPTER NEWS

Grove City Chapter(Blackfoot, Idaho) The November luncheon meeting of the Grove City Chapter featured Merlin and Joyce Price who talked about how to make family history exciting to your family, especially young children. Children love stories, and if the family stories of ancestors are told in an exciting way, they will learn character principles as they hear the stories. Joyce gave the example of her grandpa and grandma who spent their honeymoon with newly purchased baby turkeys who had to have someone stay with them so they wouldn't pile onto each other. Grandpa slept, but grandma had the fly swatter to keep mice and spiders away. Joyce suggested using role playing with simple costumes to produce lasting memories that make the ancestors real people.

Squaw Peak Chapter The featured speaker at the October meeting was Dr. Lynn Scoresby, noted psychologist and family consultant in Utah Valley. Lynn helped us understand the life of the pioneers and how we can use the pioneer experiences to better our lives. The spirit of never giving up was a main theme. Lynn kept all of us on the edge of our seats with his inspiring presentation.

Brigham Young Chapter Honors Veterans

As part of its Veteran's Day observance, Provo's Brigham Young Chapter recognized 52 of its members who served in the military at its monthly dinner meeting held at Riverside Country Club on November 17. It also awarded honorary chapter memberships to **David Evans**, a battalion scout from Patton's Third Army, and to



Harold W. Poole, a survivor of the Bataan Death March and captive slave laborer for the Nippon Steel Corp. A tribute was paid to recently deceased member, Brig. General **Don Rue Hickman**, including his life sketch. His spouse, **LoRee Terry Hickman**, was in attendance with two of their four daughters for the recognition. The meeting was conducted by chapter president, **Maughn Lee**, a Navy Veteran. Members of the BYU Army ROTC provided the color guard; patriotic music including the anthem of each of the armed services was performed by the **Leo Vernon Band**. The 123 attendees learned about the prophet **Joseph Smith, Jr.** in his role as

commanding general of the Nauvoo Legion, from guest speaker **Susan Easton Black**, BYU Professor of Church History and Doctrine. Everyone felt rewarded for being at this special meeting. (Pictured, left to right, are Harvey and Susan Easton Black, with Maughn Lee, Brigham Young Chapter President.)

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND AN EXCITING 2006 FOR THE SUP.

The National officers of the Sons of Utah Pioneers and the Trail Marker editorial staff wish to extend a Holiday Greeting to all Chapter Officers and members with this issue of the Trail Marker. The items contained in this newsletter reflect many hours of planning and study that have led to a restructuring of the SUP organization. They also include a summary of a very successful historical symposium and some chapter news. The January issue of the Trail Marker will include much more chapter news. We invite your input with pictures so we can share with each other our chapter activities. May 2006 be a year of great excitement and growth throughout all SUP chapters.

COMING EVENTS:

January 14, 2006. National Board Annual Training Seminar- 9:00 AM-12 Noon.

February, 2006. Area Council Meetings held in each SUP area. Area Vice Presidents will announce time and place. See the January issue of the Trail Marker for a summary of this information.

April 15, 2006. Chapter Presidents Council. National Headquarters Building

September 14-16. Annual Convention, Heber City, Utah. See registration information in March 2006 Pioneer Magazine.

The 'Trail Marker' is the official newsletter of the National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers.

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