

Trail Marker

VOLUME 19

PIONEERING TOMORROW
YESTERDAY, TODAY &
ISSUE 211

3 NUMBER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



This past week a large part of the Christian world willingly gave up an action or luxury for their faith in preparation for the celebration of Easter, other religious sects make sacrifices for their faith by traveling to a sacred cities or locations. Many of our ancestors have given up their homelands, families and friends to follow their faith and commitment to their new found faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and the prophet Joseph Smith. Many would leave the land of their birth and travel across the oceans and wilderness to full fill the call to gather in Zion.

Their faith was met with obstacles that would challenge their commitment to their new faith. They were subject to ridicule by their friends and neighbors. Some were tarred and feathered, jailed, and hunted like animals. There were those that lost their homes and farms to mobs and had their food stores stolen and their fields burned, which left them destitute and wondering where their next meal will come from and where to find shelter from the elements. Families were torn apart by the death of a loved one. Their lives looked dim and hopeless to individuals looking from the outside in. Through all the trials and difficulties, they remained true to their new faith.

Trials and difficulties are not limited to our forefathers but are a constant in our lives. Ours might not be the 1000-mile march across the plains or being exiled from our home and land, but they are as real and just as faith ending as those that the pioneers faced. How do we today continue to have the abiding faith in our religion and pass that value of strength and commitment on to the next generation?

I challenge you this next month as the Easter/Passover season approaches to take the time to think of your courage and commitment to your faith and develop ways to pass it on.

John Clayton
2023 National President

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Calendar of Events

SATURDAY
15
APRIL

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS CLEAN-UP DAY

9AM - NOON • LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED
PLEASE BRING GLOVES & GARDENING / WORK TOOLS



SATURDAY
22
APRIL

NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

COMMEMORATING ZIONS CAMP 1PM - 5PM
KEYNOTE SPEAKER: GLENN RAWSON 5:30PM-7PM



MONDAY
24
JULY

DAYS OF '47

SUNRISE SERVICE IN THE ASSEMBLY HALL AT TEMPLE SQUARE • 7AM
PARADE 9AM • COME PULL HANDCARTS WITH THE SUP



MONDAY
17
JULY

SUPER DUPER DAY THIS IS THE PLACE HERITAGE PARK 10AM - 5PM



7-9
SEPTEMBER

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

HOSTED BY THE DIXIE ENCAMPMENT, COTTON MILLS CHAPTERS &
HURRICAN VALLEY CHAPTERS
KEYNOTE SPEAKER: ELDER JEFFREY R. HOLLAND



NATIONAL NEWS

2022 CHAPTER IN EXCELLENCE & CHAPTER RECOGNITION RECIPIENTS

For The Year 2022

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF

Chapter Recognition Awards

THE SONS OF UTAH PIONEERS

Certified by the National Executive Committee

Bountiful Chapter

Brigham Young Chapter

Salt Lake Pioneer Chapter

For The Year 2022

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF

Chapter An Excellence Recognition

THE SONS OF UTAH PIONEERS

Certified by the National Executive Committee

Box Elder Chapter

Cedar City Chapter

Cotton Mission Chapter

Hurricane Valley Chapter

Jordan River Temple Chapter

Morgan Pioneer Chapter

Pocatello Portneuf Pioneers

Porter Rockwell Chapter

Ogden Pioneer Chapter

Settlement Canyon Chapter

Timpanogos Chapter

Upper Snake River Valley Chapter

Everyone has stories of pioneer ancestors that have and moved and motivated our lives that can benefit us all.



PIONEER STORIES

Please enjoy reading and submitting at: suponline.org/pioneer-stories.

EYES TO SEE DELIVERANCE

By Richard D. Kirkham - Area Vice President - Sons of Utah Pioneers

The history of the Hodgett Wagon Companies' hardships are intertwined with the more famous accounts of tragedy remembered of the Willie and Martin handcart companies. In 1856 winter storms trapped the Willie, Martin, Hunt, and Hodgetts companies, on the plains of present-day Wyoming. Close to 1,500 people were stranded along the trail, approximately 250 of whom died after suffering exposure, frostbite, and starvation. A rescue effort enlisted thousands of Church members in Utah to provide food and aid. Some 300 rescuers risked their own safety to meet the companies en route and help them reach the Salt Lake Valley, saving over 1,200 lives. This rescue has inspired generations of Latter-day Saints for the rescuers' rapid response and heroic willingness to take personal risks, and the community's support and care for the survivors.

The Hodgetts company consisted of 160 individuals and about 33 wagons when they left from the outfitting post located at Iowa City, Iowa. William Benjamin Hodgetts was the captain of the company. Twelve year-old John Bond was a member of the company. He and parents and 6 siblings were converts from England, bound for Salt Lake City. He remembered well the day the rescuers arrived from the Salt Lake Valley.

Along in the afternoon, I was playing in front of Sister Scott's St. Louis wagon with her son Joseph, then seven years old, and his mother was looking to the westward. All at once Sister Scott sprang to her feet in the wagon and screamed out at the top of her voice, "I see them coming! I see them coming! Surely they are angels from heaven!" At such a thing being said I looked the way she was looking, that I may see what she saw in the distance. Then she called out, "I can see them plainer! plainer! plainer!" I still looked the way she was looking but could not see anything. By this time more of the brethren and sisters came from their tents and wagons from all over the camp, anxious to see what she saw in the distance.



All kept looking to the westward for the moving objects, when all commenced to see in the distance at the curve of the hill, what Sister Scott saw, appearing to be three men on horses, driving another slowly in the deep crusted snow, as the wolves howled from all directions. Still the Saints kept watching for the moving objects as all were anxious to see the relief party coming to relieve the distress all were in, bringing assistance to alleviate the loving Saints of undaunted faith. As the moving objects could be seen distinctly, a general cry rent the air. Hurrah! Hurrah! Some of the voices choked with laughter and falling tears. They were tickled to know that they were to be saved and delivered from the fears of an ignominious death. When sister Scott waved her shawl calling, "We are saved!" It was so loud that all the camp could hear her, and repeating, "It is! It is surely the relief party from Utah.

Joseph A. Young, Daniel W. Jones and Abraham Garr came into camp with a small dun colored pack mule packed with supplies which caused much rejoicing throughout the camp with Hurrah! Hurrah! Hurrah! again and again. The broken hearted mothers ran, clasping their emaciated arms around the necks of the relief party, kissing them time and time again as do the brethren also, rushing up in groups to fall on their necks, the tears falling from their eyes in profusion. They were overjoyed to think that all were soon to have relief and care for the living and sick and burial for the dead as they go to their silent tombs. "God bless Brigham Young and the rescuing parties sent out to help all to the valleys over the snowclad Rocky mountains," was heard all over the camp.

Sister Scott was one who was faithfully watching, waiting, hoping for salvation and delivery from their terrible plight. Her eyes were attuned and her response was swift. She shared the good news of their deliverance. Together they all became partakers of the heavenly gift. May we all have eyes to see. May we all be quick to rally around our spiritual deliverer who is Jesus Christ for He is nearer than we think!

Mormon Trek

A Missing Plaque Discovered

MORMON STATION - GENOA, NEVADA

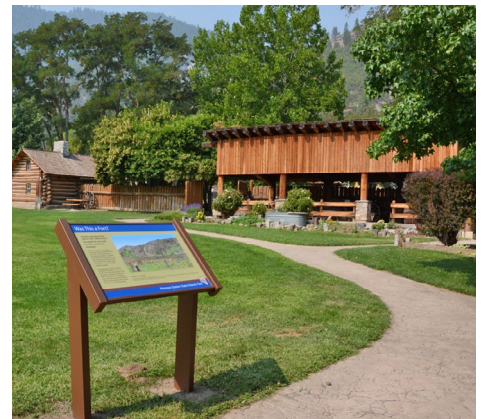
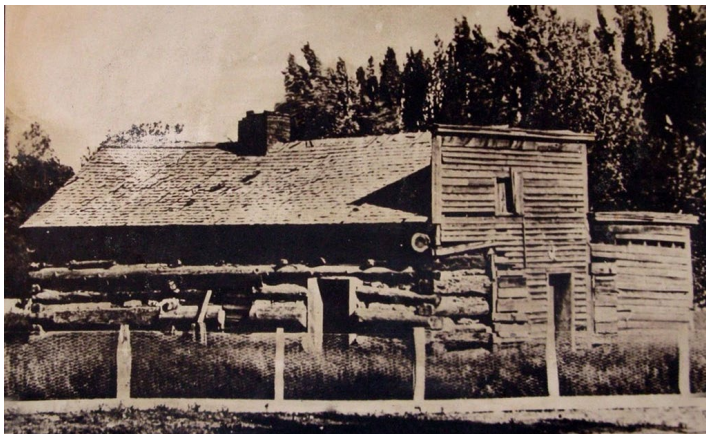


UPTLA #38 memorializes Mormon Station which was established in June 1849 by Hampden S. Beattie, who built the first house in Nevada. In July 1850 Col. John Reese, His brother Enoch, Stephen A. Kinsey, and others, established Reese's Station, First Anglo-Saxon settlement in Nevada (then Utah). A stockade costing \$2,000 was built. In 1855 Orson Hyde, Judge George P. Stiles, U.S. Marshall Joseph L. Heywood, and other Mormon pioneers colonized Carson Valley, organizing Carson County which had been created by the Utah Legislature in 1854.

During the renovation of Mormon Station Park located at the intersection of Highway 206 and Highway 758 in Genoa, Nevada, the Mormon Station UPTLA #38 plaque was removed from display and its location and disposition were not known until February 2023.

Tyler Thorsted, who formerly worked for the Church History Department and now works for the BYU Library, discovered the location of UPTLA #38 when on a recent vacation and visited Mormon Station Historical Park. He found the plaque in good condition and stored in the park's storage barn at Genoa.

Tyler has been instrumental in locating several of the older UPTLA monuments/plaques over the years and we express our gratitude for his continuing dedicated service in helping the SUP to maintain the accuracy of our Master List of SUP and UPTLA monuments.



C H R I S T I A N P I O N E E R S

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 please.
2. 1 high quality jpeg photograph as an attachment to your email. Poor quality photos cannot be used.
3. Email to: rolandleefamily@gmail.com
4. News must be received by the 25th of each month

We cannot use PDF files nor will we re-write information from your own chapter newsletters. Please take a few minutes and provide the information we need in the manner requested above. Thank you.

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!

NAMECHAPTER

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Kline P Barney, Jr Salt Lake Pioneer
 Horatio D Gregory Temple Fork
 Weldon William Heaton Hurricane Valley
 Tim Jensen Malan Ogden Pioneer
 Forrest Terrell Morgan Pioneer

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Merrell Pratt Upper Snake River Valley

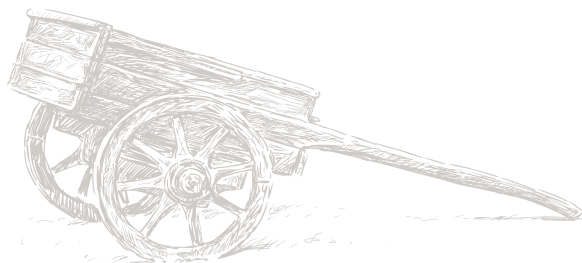
NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Christine Hutchings Mt Nebo

NAMECHAPTER

NEW ANNUAL MEMBERS

Carl Bradford Allen Cotton Mission
 Orson Eldon Badger Ogden Pioneer
 Don Bambrough Morgan Pioneer
 Brent Burton Sanpete County
 Walter Fife Bountiful
 Dave Ford Cotton Mission
 Melvin L Gardner Salt Lake Pioneer
 Mark Greene Pioneer Heritage-Canyon Rim
 Jeff Kilts Ogden Pioneer
 Norman L. Potter Cedar City
 John S. Rizley Mesa
 Darrel R. Solum Murray
 Scott Southwick Lehi



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

BOULDER DAM CHAPTER - Boulder City / Las Vegas, Nevada



Sweetheart Dinner

On Valentine's Day, the Boulder Dam Chapter held their annual Valentine's dinner at the 5th Street Chapel in Boulder City, Nevada. The dinner was catered by Café Rio and this activity was well attended. Following dinner, Randy Dyer gave a history of his family coming from Europe to Nauvoo and

then to the Salt Lake Valley. Bob Gurr, our area vice president, came from Kanab, Utah to swear in our new officers for 2023. Cole Preston wrapped up our evening by playing his guitar and singing a variety of songs. A great time was had by all.

BOX ELDER CHAPTER - Brigham City, Utah

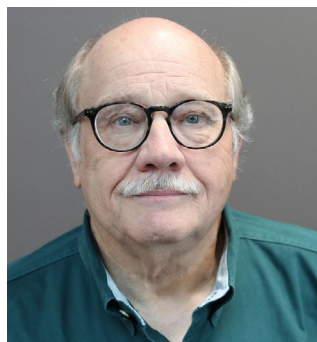


L. Nate Pierce

For our February chapter meeting, we enjoyed an excellent meal provided by Idle Isle Cafe. Nate Pierce, National SUP President Elect, was introduced to us and presented the program. He was born in Tremonton, raised in the Pocatello Valley and northern Utah area

so he was acquainted with the area. He told many life and pioneer experiences that were uplifting and enjoyable to hear about. We are grateful for the time he took to be with us.

BRIGHAM YOUNG CHAPTER - Provo / Orem, Utah



John Sillito

Noted author, teacher, archivist and Emeritus Professor at Weber State University, Dr. John Sillito was the speaker for the February meeting. His presentation was "B.H. Roberts: A Life in the Public Arena" is very knowledgeable about Roberts. His award-winning book of the same name was published in 2021. He has also edited and published a collection of Roberts' diaries. Dr. Sillito concentrated on three aspects of Roberts' life: politician, polygamist, and public intellectual. Roberts was very active in Utah politics. He was an exponent of Democrats and often found himself in conflict with other church leaders who were primarily Republicans. He served in the Utah Constitutional Convention and in the administration of Gov. Simon Bamberger, and as a Chaplain during World War I. He ran for congress twice. One time he was defeated but then was elected in 1898. However, he was expelled since he was a

practicing polygamist with three wives. This brought widespread national attention and he became the best-known Latter-day Saint in the country. Roberts became a household name throughout the country. Regarding polygamy, Roberts opposed the Woodruff Manifesto. He refused to vote to sustain it and married and had children after the Manifesto. Roberts was knowledgeable about history, literature, political economy, and religion. He was a skilled and persuasive orator. He gave lectures and sermons on secular and religious topics. During his lifetime he was considered Mormonism's "foremost" intellectual. He edited the seven volume History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and independently wrote the six volume Comprehensive History of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and other works. Dr. Sillito believes more will be written about Roberts in the future.

CEDAR CITY CHAPTER - Cedar City, Utah



Melisa Wright

On Saturday, February 11, we held our annual Valentine's potluck dinner in the Canyon View ward chapel in Cedar City. We were especially blessed with a very impressive array of desserts, appropriate for a Valentine's dinner. After the pledge of allegiance and opening prayer, we were treated to renditions of several "golden oldies" by Melisa Wright accompanied by Teri Kenney. It brought back a few memories as she played to her "older" audience. After dinner our pioneer minute speaker was Evan Jones. He related the history of the Kunz family. The story starts in Switzerland with Jacob and Susannah Kunz. By prior agreement, Jacob came back to Susannah after his death to let her know that the restored Gospel of Jesus Christ was on the earth and that their family would accept

it. Each succeeding family member took their time, but they all ended up joining the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints after many twists and turns to the story. Descendants of Jacob and Susannah eventually ended up in Utah and Southern Idaho making cheese as called to do by Brigham Young. Evan is proud to be a direct descendant of the Kunz family through his mother and, also, serves as secretary of our local chapter.

In March we have scheduled our next trek, a visit to historic Fort Pierce and then on to a historical museum in Santa Clara, Utah. Also in March will be our annual general authority fireside where we will be privileged to hear from Elder Larry S. Kacher.

CENTERVILLE CHAPTER - Centerville, Utah



Dr. Tanner and Pres. Bruce Collett

In our February chapter meeting, we honored to hear from our featured speaker, Dr. William W. Tanner. Dr. Tanner is the current Publisher for the Pioneer Magazine from the Sons of Utah Pioneers. He first gave us a brief history of the magazine from its inception in 1936. Originally, there were pioneer related articles and various announcements and activities happening in SUP. It also contained various advertisements. You could find dentists, doctors, stores, Farr Ice Cream, and Snelgrove Ice Cream advertisements. This was how the magazine was financed in the beginning. Eventually, there was enough money through donations and people purchasing the magazine to do away with the advertising. Various changes occurred throughout the years including

better paper, different formatting until we have today's wonderful magazine. Winter of 2015 was the first edition where Dr. Tanner was the Publisher. This edition talked about Liberty Jail and the hardships for Joseph Smith and others. By this time, the monthly chapter news had been removed and is now found at the Trail Marker which is emailed monthly to the SUP members. In 2016 there was a plan to feature the Church History Museum. This project turned out to be larger than expected, including concerns with intellectual property rights in the museum. It was decided to use the summer, fall, and winter editions of the magazine to cover the museum. Copies of past editions of the magazine were made available to our members. Our thanks to Dr. Tanner for a very informative and enjoyable evening.

COTTON MISSION CHAPTER - St George, Utah



Malissa Kelsch

We held our monthly meeting on February 21 at the Washington City Community Center. Brother David McKay gave a pioneer moment about his ancestor followed by dinner catered by Golden Corral restaurant. Author Malissa Kelsch presented a nice PowerPoint discussion while talking about being the best we can be. Growing up in

Southern Utah she enjoyed getting her toes in the red sand and learning about life. She gave us some thoughts to live by. She discussed the acronym GRIT. The letters stand for Goals, Relationships, Intelligence, and Thoughts. She left us with the message, "Think good thoughts and do good deeds."

HURRICANE CHAPTER - Hurricane, Utah



St George Temple

We met at the Legion Hall for a scrumptious dinner and wonderful historical information. Larry and Holly Viegal were our presenters. As we began to gather, it quickly became apparent that the topic of the construction of the renovated St. George Temple was a topic that had tremendous interest. Before the meeting got underway, we ran out of space at the tables, and had to set up other tables. In the end we had 82 people in attendance! What a beautiful beginning to a new year!

Brother Viegal began by giving us a history of temples in our dispensation, then quickly began talking about the work that was being done on the St. George Temple! The pictures were most interesting as he showed the work of creating space in the foundation to shore up the stability of the temple. We also learned that there is no set date for the construction to be done, but that it would be done this year!

JORDAN RIVER TEMPLE CHAPTER - South Jordan, Utah



Jay and Janet Todd

One of the Church's most iconic temples, The Washington D.C. Temple, was recently rededicated following extensive renovation work. Jay Todd, former Managing Editor of the Ensign magazine shared with us much regarding the temple site's history. Brother Todd attributed much of his presentation material to Dale VanAtta's recently published work, "The Washington D.C. Temple: Divine by Design." The land where today's temple majestically stands, known as Joseph's Park, was once owned by Indian tribes and then later by Kings. Throughout history, it seems the land was preserved for its divine purpose as the hallowed location for a House of the Lord. Eventually, the Church was able to purchase the land for a mere \$14K/acre where this "beacon of peace" now stands. Four prominent architects submitted designs for the temple, with Keith W. Wilcox's contemporary version of the six-spired Salt

Lake Temple being accepted. The temple's exterior is sheathed in stunning Alabama white marble, the same stone used on other Washington D.C. monuments. President Hugh B. Brown was still alive and was able to attend the temple's dedication in 1974 with Dr. Russell M. Nelson as his assisting physician. It was recorded that many deceased prophets attended the dedication and that the Savior himself walked through the temple and touched every wall prior to the dedication. On the evening of March 3, 2018, the Washington D.C. Temple closed its doors for significant renovations and upgrades. In addition to the work accomplished on the temple itself and its annex bridge, the refreshed interior now includes 200 new pieces of artwork showing the diversity of God's children. The temple was rededicated August 14, 2022, by President Russell M. Nelson.

MAPLE MOUNTAIN CHAPTER - Mapleton / Spanish Fork, Utah



Parker Garlitz

In a previous meeting Parker Garlitz spoke to our chapter on the Restoration of the Gospel in these latter days. He returned again this month and spoke about the two Revolutionary Wars of 1776 and 1812 and the miracles that took place that paved the way for the Church to be established in its beginning. America had no chance of overcoming the British in Revolutionary Wars of 1812 and 1776 accept through miracles wrought by God. President George Washington knew that

God's hands were in the Revolutionary War of 1776 when the country won their freedom from the British. But the British wanted their territory, the colonies, back and made efforts to do so in the North East, Washington D.C., North Carolina and Alabama. The divine intervention came several times when the British had to cross rivers to attack the Americans. The rivers started to overflow and many were drowned which discouraged the

(Continued On Following Page)

British from crossing. On another occasion the fog was so heavy that the British lost their way and could not attack. In the meantime France (Napoleon) attacked the British in the Siege of York and England lost. It turned the war to America's favor through divine intervention. After the War of 1812 was won there was a religious awakening with the

British having no say in religious freedom. Even Thomas Jefferson recognized that there was an apostasy and a need for restoration. Joseph Smith from Palmyra, was young, and asking questions of what church to join and, of course, we know the history of Joseph Smith and the restored Church from that time on.

MESA ARIZONA CHAPTER - Mesa, Arizona



Chapter trek lunch

The Mesa Arizona Chapter had a busy February. Our Board met via zoom for our first Thursday of the month gathering on February 2nd. The business of the chapter was conducted and we planned our next chapter activities. First up was our second Thursday of the Month chapter gathering. We met on February 9th at our usual meeting place; the cultural hall of the LDS ward building on Center and 1st Street, downtown Mesa. After some opening "dad jokes," announcements, patriotic moment and flag salute, we shared

a potluck dinner and enjoyed a virtual tour of National Air & Space Museum's McDonnell Udvar-Hazy Center. Here we learned about pioneers in the air and space industries. On Saturday, February 18th the chapter gathered at the Mesa Historical Museum in old Lehi, Arizona for a trek. This was our first trek in well over 3 years. After self-touring the museum and enjoying the exhibits, we traveled to Rosa's Mexican Grille for a wonderful lunch together.

MORGAN CHAPTER - Morgan, Utah



Kim Blackburn

The Morgan Chapter of the Sons of Utah Pioneers gathered for their February luncheon this last Monday. Food was again provided by Larry's Spring Chicken Inn. After lunch, local entrepreneur and President of TIPS, Kim Blackburn addressed the members. TIPS or "Totally Integrated Panel Systems" is located here in Morgan. Prefabricated panel wall systems were developed in the 1960's in Austria and a fabrication plant was eventually established in South Carolina. Mr. Blackburn, a builder by trade, was so impressed with the product he went to work for them for nine years, eventually buying the company. With his pioneer roots in central Utah, in 2016 he moved the fabrication plant to Morgan.

TIPS currently ships wall panel systems all around the globe. Although they specialize in commercial buildings of almost any size TIPS also is involved in residential structures. TIPS panels are light weight, quicker to put up than conventional structures and are highly insulating. Because of their cement and foam construction they are also water, wind and earth quake resistant. TIPS in Morgan employs 45 full time workers and many other part time workers including high school students. Mr. Blackburn and TIPS are one of SUP's scholarship donors who help make annual awards to seniors and pioneer essay contestants possible.

MT NEBO CHAPTER - Nephi, Utah



Jay H. Buckley

We had a great dinner meeting on Feb. 23 for members and their friends. We began with a great catered dinner, served by Lori Catmull. Following the dinner, Dr. Jay H. Buckley, Associate Professor of History at Brigham Young University, was the guest speaker for our February dinner meeting. He gave a powerful presentation about the early Mountain Men of the 1820s and 30s, focusing on Daniel Potts, Warren Ferris, and Osborne Russell, who's letters, diaries, and maps

described the "Land of the Burning Ground", later named Yellowstone. Their writings aroused the interest of eager readers with their harrowing accounts of the life of a trapper, their encounters with Native Americans, and their vivid descriptions of both Edenic and Infernal regions in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Their descriptions played a role in future governmental exploration that resulted in the creation of the world's first national park in 1872.

OGDEN PIONEER CHAPTER - Ogden, Utah



Bill Tanner

Dr. William (Bill) W. Tanner was the Keynote Speaker at the Ogden Pioneer Chapter luncheon on 13 February 2023. Dr. Tanner serves as the Publisher of our stellar Pioneer Magazine. Bill entitled his informative presentation "Opportunities and Obstacles in Producing Pioneer Magazine." Pioneer began during the Depression in 1936 as a newspaper with ads, but nothing political. In 1984 it became a 19 page newsletter. It grew to 45 pages with color, with fewer ads in 1995. In 2004 the Trail Marker newsletter began. In 2013

Pioneer grew to 68 pages with no ads, in color, on quality paper, with a plastic wrapper, and included a subscription/donation envelope, which we see in current issues. Bill reviewed several outstanding issues. He answered the question how to find ancestors in Pioneer and the SUP Library. He shared several Pioneer back issues, and said issues are available for purchase and free online after two years. Someone wanted to know if a Weber County edition was planned and someone said there was one in 2009.

SALT LAKE PIONEER CHAPTER - Downtown Salt Lake City, Utah



Richard E. Turley

Click [HERE](#) to see all of the Salt Lake Pioneer Chapter's upcoming events and watch past luncheon presentations. Our upcoming Luncheon details are as follows:

When: Wednesday, March 8th at Noon.

Location: Thomas S. Monson Center Carriage House, 411 E. South Temple.

Cost: \$25 per person.

Speakers: Richard E. Turley Jr. was a long-time historian for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Salt Lake City, Utah, and a co-author of Massacre at Mountain Meadows. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including the American Historical Association's Herbert Feis Award and the Historic Preservation Medal from the Daughters of the American Revolution. Turley also represented relatives of the

Mountain Meadows Massacre victims in their successful petition of the federal government to grant National Historic Landmark status for the atrocity site.

Barbara Jones Brown is the director of Signature Books Publishing and former executive director of the Mormon History Association. She also provided content editing for Massacre at Mountain Meadows. She holds an M.A. in American history from the University of Utah and a B.A. in journalism and English from Brigham Young University. While researching her genealogy after beginning work on Vengeance Is Mine, Brown discovered that, like the earlier Mountain Meadows Massacre historian, Juanita Brooks, she is a direct descendant of one of its perpetrators.



Barbara Jones Brown

TEMPLE FORK CHAPTER - Logan, Utah



L. Nate Pierce

The Temple Fork Chapter held its monthly dinner meeting on Thursday, February 16th at the Logan River golf course club house. Golfing was a challenge due to knee deep snow covering the fairways and greens. After giving up on golf we enjoyed a great dinner followed by a presentation by Nate Pierce, national president elect of the SUP. President elect Pierce gave a great presentation, first giving an

overview of his family history. He then gave each one present the challenge to write our family histories. If we fail to write our histories our life lessons and legacy will become lost after our passing. He then concluded with two cowboy poems he had written. This was a great evening and we left knowing that the future of the SUP is in great hands.

TIMPANOGOS CHAPTER - American Fork, Utah



Gerrit J. Dirkmaat

The Timpanogos Chapter held their monthly dinner meeting on Thursday, February 16, 2023 in the American Fork Senior Citizen Center. The guest speaker was Gerrit J. Dirkmaat, Associate Professor, Church History and Doctrine, Brigham Young University. Brother Dirkmaat presented information not well known about the Mormon Battalion. The political climate in the United States and in the states of Missouri and Illinois in the 1940s was discussed. Gerrit showed numerous incidents leading up to the martyrdom of the Prophet Joseph Smith in 1844 and the subsequent mob rule that force thousands of Latter-day Saints to flee from Nauvoo, Illinois, for their lives.

It became apparent to Church Leaders that they must leave the United States and go to the Mexican Territory to be able to practice their religion in peace. An amazing surprise occurred in 1846 as US President James Polk invited the "Mormons" to volunteer 500+ men to enlist as infantry during the Mexican American War. The battalion was recruited and made a grueling march of 2,100 miles from Council Bluffs, Iowa to San Diego, California. This was a blessing to the Saints because of the money that the battalion earned was used to support the movement of the church to the Salt Lake valley.

UPPER SNAKE RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER - Rexburg, Idaho



Craig Chandler

Craig Chandler, a retired, 68-year-old, resident of St. Anthony, shared his experiences of humanitarian work in the on-going war in Ukraine. He said an appropriate title for his presentation would be, "Promptings, Prayers, and Faith." This was an excellent summary of his message. Craig felt prompted to assist in Ukraine in any way he could and therefore said good-bye to his wife and family and traveled first to Poland to see what he could do. Craig had a hard time relating his experiences without tears. He worked with bishops, temple-protectors, and many volunteers to provide humanitarian support to the Saints.

He would drive 17-hour days, 7-days a week. He delivered foods, medicine, diapers, toys, and many other supplies to outlying villages and cities where the Saints were struggling to survive.

Upcoming Activities: March 16th: Douglas Nyhom: "Mormon Currency--How the Saints Financed the Kingdom." April 20th: Bill Riggins: "Challenges Our Youth Are Facing Today--What I've Learned as the 'Director of Student Honor and Inclusion' Officer at BYU-Idaho."