

# Trail Marker

VOLUME 17

PIONEERING  
YESTERDAY, TODAY &  
TOMORROW  
ISSUE 189

5 NUMBER

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



One year ago many of our worlds stopped spinning. The Covid-19 virus and subsequent pandemic had essential halted life as we knew it. I don't think any of us could have imagined that a virus could have closed the Temples, canceled church worldwide and affected our world in a strange and profound fashion. The Sons of Utah Pioneers was not exempt from the effects of Covid-19. In March 2020 all in person events for the foreseeable future were canceled. These included the national symposium, the 24th of July festivities, the 2020 encampment and chapter meetings.

Many of us became quite ill with Covid-19 and sadly to say we lost a few SUP members to this virus and pandemic. By following our local, state and federal government medical officials along with our church leaders we have been able to take the fight to Covid-19 and beat back the virus. Because of each of your efforts in mask wearing, physical distancing, safe and effective vaccines and endless prayers life is beginning to return to normal. Here is a brief recap of how the SUP is returning:

- 1) Through the pandemic the executive board has continued to meet weekly by Zoom.
- 2) The SUP board of directors and Pioneer magazine committee has continued to meet monthly by zoom.
- 3) The Pioneer Magazine has not missed any issues and continues to be published.
- 4) Many chapters are holding monthly Zoom meetings.
- 5) The 2021 SUP National Symposium was held last week on April 24th, in person and by Zoom.
- 6) The days of 47 activities are planned and on schedule for in person participation to include:

*(Continued On Following Page)*

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- a. The SUPER/DUPER day at This Is The Place Heritage State Park on July 19th, 2021
  - b. The annual Sunrise Service is planned for July 23rd, 2021 and will be in person.
  - c. The annual Days of 47 Parade is on schedule for July 23rd, 2021.
- 7) The annual SUP Encampment is planned for September 16th-18th, 2021 in Rexburg Idaho.

Those who attended the symposium were able to see the latest SUP historical plaque and monument that was placed in the SUP headquarters building on April 15th, 2021. This new monument explains the Bear Flag that was placed in the building earlier this year. I encourage chapters and individuals to visit our headquarters building on a trek to see the Bear Flag and this new monument and plaque.

On Saturday, April 24th we held the 2021 SUP Symposium. This was a great event held in person and over Zoom. The study at this year's symposium was the 125th Anniversary of Utah's Statehood and the Women's Suffrage movement. There were four great presenters during the afternoon session including two SUP past presidents, Tom Alexander and Wayne Hinton. They were joined by Matthew Godfrey and Katherine Kidderman. The evening session was held at the SUP headquarters building with a fine meal followed by our keynote speaker Elder LeGrand R. Curtis Jr. Elder Curtis gave an excellent presentation focusing on Utah's path to Statehood. We were all very happy that we could hold this event in person as a well as on Zoom.

This has been a crazy year with all of the changes to our lives caused by Covid-19. By remembering and practicing the pioneer values that we each have and cherish we are getting through this. The National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers is alive and well. Join with your chapters in whatever way you can. I look forward to seeing each of you at the 24th of July celebrations and the National Encampment. Be safe, have a great month, thank you and be Pioneer Strong.

Brad Clayton  
2021 National President

# Calendar of Events

MONDAY  
**19**  
JULY

## SUPER DUPER DAY


THIS IS THE PLACE HERITAGE PARK • OPENS AT 10AM  
KEYNOTE SPEAKER: PRESIDENT DALLIN H. OAKS  
MORE DETAILS COMING SOON



FRIDAY  
**23**  
JULY

## DAYS OF '47


SUNRISE SERVICE IN THE ASSEMBLY HALL AT TEMPLE SQUARE • 7AM  
KEYNOTE SPEAKER: ELDER DAVID F. EVANS OF THE SEVENTY  
PARADE 9AM • COME PULL HANDCARTS WITH THE SUP



THURS -  
SATURDAY  
**16-18**  
SEPTEMBER

## NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

HOSTED BY THE UPPER SNAKE RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER  
REXBURG, ID  
[CLICK HERE FOR TICKETS](#)



## 2022 FALL FOLLIAGE TREK

### CHURCH HISTORY TOUR

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW



# NATIONAL NEWS

## PASSING OF PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENT DICK CHRISTIANSEN

[CLICK HERE TO READ THE OBITUARY](#)



BY BOB FOLKMAN

My year as president-elect of the SUP corresponded to Dick's year as past president. To be associated with him in service to the Sons of Utah Pioneers was an honor. We travelled together to many chapter meetings in two states to train and encourage local leadership. Dick was an inspiring teacher on these occasions, and his commitment to the organization set a great example for me. He also set an example of wise judgment, integrity, and firmness in doing what was right as he carried out his leadership responsibilities. He and Marcia were a remarkable and effective team, always in full support of each other through some challenging times. There are few people who I have and will continue to miss as much as Dick and Marcia Christiansen.

BY DAVID B. WIRTHLIN

I first had the privilege of getting to know Dick when he was serving as the national president of SUP and I was president-elect. Dick was totally focused on preserving the deep pioneer heritage that our organization stands for. He travelled throughout Utah and Idaho, visiting the chapters and encouraging them to strengthen their membership by effective recruiting and well-planned monthly meetings. He was especially dedicated to our country and the Constitution, and on Veterans Day he organized a program held at SUP headquarters to honor our veterans. Attired in his formal "dress blue" uniform as a major general in the US Army, Dick cut quite an impressive figure. He gave a stirring reminder to the audience of our blessings as Americans and what Veterans Day should mean to all of us.

Dick became a major general in the US Army, serving in the Army Reserve for 36 years. His career began when he was called on active duty as a 2nd Lieutenant during the Korean War. He didn't talk much about his experience there, but he did share with me how he was ordered to hold a hill at all costs and how he set up his lines of defense, with machine guns and infantrymen placed in strategic places on the hill to stop a stubborn and relentless attack by the Chinese. His troops stayed in place during below zero weather and repulsed the attack. For this and other battles he participated in, and for his years of leadership, he was awarded several rows of battle ribbons and meritorious ribbons that decorated his uniform.

I think the trait that best describes Dick is courage, physically and spiritually. He was never afraid of hard work or any physical demands. Even at an older age he would participate in the heavy cleanup projects held around the SUP headquarters. Spiritually he was totally dedicated to keep the commandments and stay on the Covenant Path. He set a sterling example of faithfulness for others to follow.



# NATIONAL NEWS

BY G.S. GALLCHER

Richard Christiansen is married to my wife's deceased older sister, Marcia. As such, I have known Richard since the late 1950's. In 1977, after taking a new job in Salt Lake City while my wife remained in Colorado to sell our home and I stayed in a basement bedroom with the Christiansen family. During my many months there, I never once heard a harsh word or loud emotional voice come from Richard. That is how he was, always kind, loving, lifting others, teaching with kindness and patience, and a blessing to all those he knew in his life.

Richard always tried to build up individuals—young and old. He would instruct and bless and inspire them in the work to be accomplished. He always spoke the truth, yet he was a genuine peacemaker and exhibited sincere love for everyone he ever met and dealt with.

We will never forget the annual Labor Day picnics with Richard and Marcia and their four children in their backyard in Centerville, Utah. Fresh fruit and vegetables from his massive garden and orchard were always a treat.

Richard accepted, loved, honored, and obeyed his Savior, Jesus Christ. He also loved his country and his associations within the military. He cherished all the years he spent serving with the Sons of Utah Pioneers organization. Thank you, Richard Ogden Christiansen. How can we ever forget the wonderful years spent with you and Marcia? The memories flourish in abundance.

Dear brother, God be with you 'til we meet again.

## 2021 NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

The SUP National Symposium was held on Saturday April 24. We were all enlightened by the speakers: Thomas Alexander, Matthew Godfrey, Katherine Kitterman and Wayne Hinton. Their presentations were wonderful and it was so fun to get together again.

The excellent Dinner was catered by Meiers Catering. The Presidential Award for Meritorious Service was given to Paul Bambrough who has served the SUP in leadership roles for many years. The presentation by Elder LeGrand Curtis Jr. was very much enjoyed.

We were excited to be able to offer a virtual viewing experience and hope we can do that again in the future.

A big THANK YOU to all who helped make the Symposium such a success!



# NATIONAL NEWS

## PIONEER MAGAZINE RECEIVES AWARD

CLARENCE DIXON TAYLOR LECTURE

### FLIGHT FROM DANGER THE UTAH WAR AND THE MOVE SOUTH

THOMAS G ALEXANDER  
PROFESSOR EMERITUS, HISTORY  
BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY



MARCH 25 | 11:00 | ON ZOOM

[tinyurl.com/reddcenteralexander](https://tinyurl.com/reddcenteralexander)

SPONSORED BY THE BYU CHARLES REDD CENTER FOR WESTERN STUDIES

Pioneer Magazine's Volumes 2-3 2020 editions on "The Settlement of Utah County," won a 2020 Clarence Dixon Taylor Historical Research Award for scholarly work. The announcement and lecture can be viewed by clicking on the player to the left. Congratulations to our Pioneer Magazine Committee on receiving this well-deserved award!

## NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS CLEAN-UP DAY

The National Clean Up Day was held on Saturday April 17th. There were almost 40 members in attendance! Many very needed things got accomplished including: Tree Trimming-The Building can be seen from the Freeway now, Leaf Blowing, Grass Mowing and Edging, Closet Cleaning, Window Washing, Removal of Dead Limbs, The whole front of the building got cleaned, and a volunteer Brick Mason rebuilt the planter out front that had lost grout.

Afterward we all relaxed and had a hotdog or two. Except for the Missionaries who had 4!

National is so grateful to all who came and helped! It makes a real difference in the upkeep and maintenance of our National Headquarters!



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

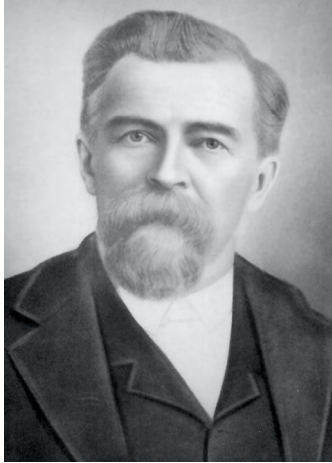
*All members of the SUP are encouraged to submit to our database at: [suponline.org/pioneer-stories](http://suponline.org/pioneer-stories).*



## PIONEER STORIES

### FRANCIS WEBSTER

Francis Webster was a very wealthy businessman in England when he and his wife Betsy joined the Church. He used his wealth to bless others, paying for himself, his wife, and nine other passengers to journey to Zion. On the ship he got dysentery, a very serious illness that often caused death, but he eventually recovered. In Iowa, though Francis had purchased a wagon and provisions in advance, he chose to sell the wagon in order to go west with the rest of their London Branch who were traveling in the Martin Handcart Company. He used the profits from the sale of the wagon to buy handcarts for his family and those too poor to buy their own. Betsy's parents, who traveled with them and were elderly, shared the Webster's handcart. Since Betsy was pregnant, Francis pulled the double-loaded cart alone.



When they received provisions in Nebraska, each family added 50 lbs of flour to their cart, so Francis pulled an extra 100 lbs. One day a brother became ill, so Francis offered him a ride in his cart for the day and pulled him 22 miles. The trail passed through the sand hills of Nebraska; many times the bottom of the wheel was submersed in the heavy sand. Not only did the sand make pulling a handcart harder, it also intensified the heat of the sun. Francis kept going. In the Black Hills area of Wyoming the rocky roads shook and bounced the carts apart and the company had to make frequent stops to repair them. As they continued their journey west it began to snow and did not stop. Francis caught pneumonia and received a blessing. He wasn't healed, but he was enabled to get up and pull his handcart.

One day in Sunday School, a group of adults criticized the church for letting the Martin Handcart company suffer on their 1856 trek. Now an aged man, Francis Webster stood up and said:

"I ask you to stop this criticism. You are discussing a matter you know nothing about. Cold historic facts mean nothing here, for they give no proper interpretation of the

questions involved. Mistake to send the Handcart Company out so late in the season? Yes! But I was in that company and my wife was in it, and Sister Nellie Unthank whom you have cited here was there, too. We suffered beyond anything you can imagine and many died of exposure and starvation, but did you ever hear a survivor of that company utter a word of criticism? Every one of us came through with the absolute knowledge that God lives for we became acquainted with Him in our extremities!...I have pulled my handcart when I was so weak and weary from illness and lack of food that I could hardly put one foot ahead of the other. I have looked ahead and seen a patch of sand or a hill slope and I have said, I can go only that far and there I must give up for I cannot pull the load through it. I have gone to that sand and when I reached it, the cart began pushing me! I have looked back many times to see who was pushing my cart, but my eyes saw no one. I knew then that the Angels of God were there... Was I sorry that I chose to come by handcart? No! Neither then nor any minute of my life since. The price we paid to become acquainted with God was a privilege to pay and I am thankful that I was privileged to come in the Martin Handcart Company."<sup>1</sup>

Elder Dallin H. Oaks said, "It is not enough to study or reenact the accomplishments of our pioneers. We need to identify the great, eternal principles they applied to achieve all they achieved for our benefit and then apply those principles to the challenges of our day. In that way we honor their pioneering efforts, and we also reaffirm our heritage and strengthen its capacity to bless our own posterity and those millions of our Heavenly Father's children who have yet to hear and accept the gospel of Jesus Christ. We are all pioneers in doing so."<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> - William R. Palmer, "Francis Webster," Instructor, 79

<sup>2</sup> - October 1997 General Conference

# Monument Trek

## Joseph Standing Monument

4241 STANDING ROAD, VARNELL, GEORGIA



Rudger Clawson (Left) and Joseph Standing (Right)



Memorial Park and Marker at Vanrell Station



In March 1878 Joseph Standing was called on his second mission to the Southern States Mission. By April 1879, Standing was the presiding Elder of the Georgia Conference, responsible for overseeing all church affairs in the State. Mission President John Morgan assigned newly arrived Rudger Clawson, future President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, as his companion.

Not soon after, Elder Standing had a dream that he had been turned away from lodging by a member at Varnell Station, a small town in northwest Georgia near the border of Tennessee. He told Elder Clawson, "I am fearful that something terrible is going to happen."

On July 20th at 10 p.m. on a very dark night, the missionaries arrived for a brief stop in this community and sought lodging at the home of a member. The woman became deathly afraid when she saw them, fearing a mob, and turned them away with the very words from Elder Standing's dream. She told them a mob had formed and had threatened to kill Elder Standing, who was known in those parts for his proselyting. As they traveled to the home of a kindly neighbor, Mr. Holston. "There was an awful,

terrible stillness about us," recalled Elder Clawson. Holston welcomed them, but all through the night Elder Standing was highly agitated and slept with a fireplace poker under his pillow.

The next morning they heard that a mob was coming and the missionaries moved quickly to leave the area. On the road heading toward Rome, Georgia they came in view of the mob. "When the mob saw us and we saw them, it was a tense moment," related Elder Clawson. "They were some distance away, and then it was that they took off their hats and swung them over their heads and with an ugly yell came charging down on us." Each member of the mob was well armed. "When they reached us, they drew up suddenly. The leader of the mob said: 'You are our prisoners.' "

When Standing asked by what authority they were stopped on a public road, one member of the mob told them, "there is no law in Georgia for Mormons." As they were taken down the road, Elder Standing repeatedly asked for water. Eventually, they came to a spring a short distance off the road where Elder Standing was permitted to drink.

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One of the mob, named Faucett, said to them, "I want you men to understand that I am the captain of this party, and that if we ever again find you in this part of the country we will hang you by the neck like dogs," which gave Clawson the impression that the mob did not intend to kill them at that time. They continued to harass the Elders for more than an hour. "I really believe they intended to give us a severe whipping which might or might not have ended the tragedy," said Elder Clawson. However, just as they were ordered to the woods, Elder Standing jumped to his feet, held out his hands as if he were armed, and yelled, "Surrender."

"As the word 'surrender' left the lips of Joseph Standing, one of the men sitting in the circle pointed his weapon at the missionary and fired. . . . A cloud of smoke and dust enveloped the wounded man. The leading mobocrat pointing to me, said 'Shoot that man.' Every weapon was leveled at my head. . . . I was looking down the gun barrels of the murderous mob. I folded my arms and said, 'Shoot,' and almost persuaded myself that I was shot, so intense were my feelings. . . . When I heard the voice in command say 'Don't shoot' it was just then the realization came to me that I had not been shot."

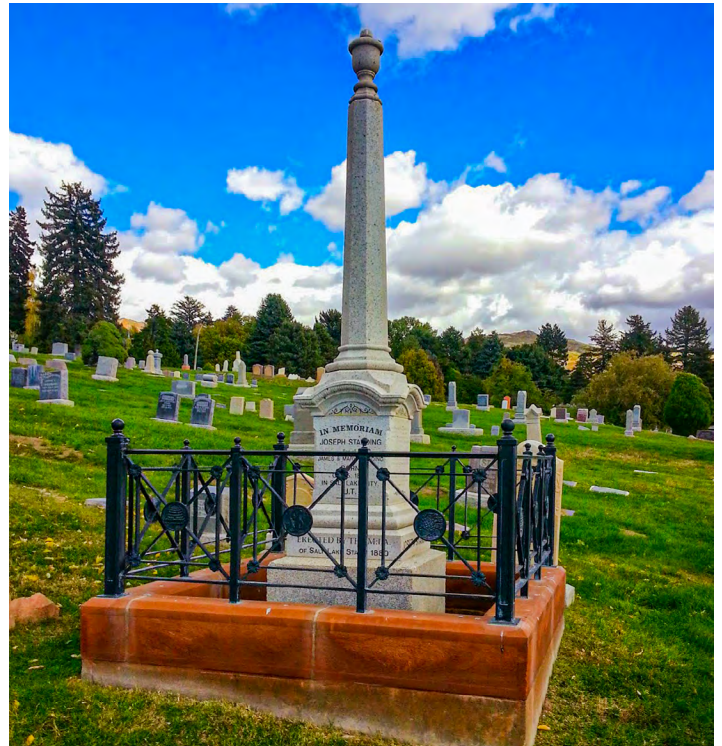
Elder Clawson stepped to help his dying companion who had "a great gaping bullet hole in his forehead." Elder Clawson spoke with the mob and gained permission to go in search of a coroner. He ran two miles to find Holston, who quickly went to the spring but by the time he arrived, the body now had more than 20 bullet wounds in the face and neck. It is believed this was done by the mob to protect the original shooter from conviction by having each man participate in the crime.

Meanwhile Clawson rode another eight miles to Catoosa Springs to find the coroner. Returning to the site, they placed the body on a door and carried it to Mr. Holston's home. The coroner urged a local and quick burial, but Elder Clawson replied, "if I had been shot to death in Georgia, as he was shot to death, I would not wish to be buried in this soil."

They built a coffin, wrapped the body in salt and bay leaves to cover the smell, and Clawson escorted it back to Salt Lake City by train. Funeral services were held in the Salt Lake Tabernacle on Sunday, August 3. Speakers included President John Taylor and George Q. Cannon of the First Presidency. Approximately 10,000 attended the service, after which Standing was buried at Salt Lake City Cemetery.

Clawson then got back on a train and returned to Georgia for the trial. After three days all of the accused were acquitted. While leaving the Judge reminded Clawson, "There is no law in Georgia for the Mormons."

On the base of the 13-foot monument of Italian marble over Standing's grave in the Salt Lake City Cemetery, are the words of Orson F. Whitney: "Beneath this stone, by friendship's hand is lain. The martyred form of one, untimely slain, A servant of the Lord, whose works revealed. The love of truth for which his doom was sealed. Where foes beset--when but a single friend. Stood true, nor shunned his comrade's cruel end--Deep in the shades of ill-starred Georgia's wood, fair freedom's soil was crimsoned with his blood. Our brother rests beneath his native sod, his murderers are in the hands of God. Weep, weep for them, not him whose silent dust. Here waits the resurrection of the just." Also included on the stone is a list of the members of the mob by name. The monument was at some point vandalized and the broken obelisk sat beside the grave for many years. In 2001 with a granite replica of the original marker, adding an iron fencing around the base was erected.



Missionary work was suspended in Georgia for 10 years. As the years passed, old animosity was replaced by a new respect. In 1919 Atlanta became headquarters of the Southern States Mission. The corridor of land where the missionary was killed and the spring where he last drank was donated to the Church by the owner, W.C. Puryear, as a memorial park. That same year, on May 3, 1952, President David O. McKay dedicated the park and a monument to Elder Standing. In 1983, the first temple in the South was dedicated in Georgia. Georgia currently has an estimated membership of 60,000 in 14 Stakes and two Missions.

*"The Martyrdom of Joseph Standing," by John Nicholson*

# THE TRAIL MARKER NEWS

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 a short, one paragraph, article in MS Word (or send as the text of an email)
2. Attach 1 or 2 quality jpeg photographs to your email. If the photo is of poor quality, it cannot be used.
3. In the email subject line just put your "Chapter name" (nothing more)
4. Email to: [rolandleefamily@gmail.com](mailto:rolandleefamily@gmail.com)
5. News must be received by the 25th of each month

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

## NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!

NAME .....CHAPTER

### CHAPTER ETERNAL MEMBERS

Dick Christiansen..... Centerville  
 Larry Edwards ..... Timpanogos  
 Klaus D Gurgel.....Ogden Pioneer  
 Harold H Hiskey ..... Cedar City  
 Lowell S West ..... Ogden Pioneer

### NEW ANNUAL MEMBERS

Tyler Bond..... Porter Rockwell  
 Spencer Clawson ..... Holladay  
 Dean Forman ..... Salt Lake Pioneer  
 Clint Lawton..... Hurricane Valley  
 Gregory M McDonough ..... Salt Lake Pioneer  
 Stephen Valentine ..... Box Elder

### NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Mary Beth Edwards..... Timpanogos  
 Anne Fisher..... Timpanogos

NAME .....CHAPTER

### NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Rulon O Gibson .....Timpanogos  
 Lance D Gibson.....Timpanogos  
 Devon Gibson .....Timpanogos  
 Brandt R Gibson .....Timpanogos  
 Tony Gibson .....Timpanogos  
 Colby J Gibson .....Timpanogos  
 Todd Hill ..... At Large Member  
 Jason Nelson .....Timpanogos  
 Paul M Ricks ..... Porter Rockwell

### NEW FAMILY & FRIENDS

Bradley Armstrong ..... Temple Fork  
 Josiah Dahlstrom ..... Portneuf Pioneers  
 Roger Erickson ..... Cotton Mission  
 Earl F Phippen ..... Portneuf Pioneers  
 Daniel Shewell ..... Upper Snake River Valley  
 Reed G Stucki ..... Mesa  
 Demarco Watson ..... Portneuf Pioneers

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

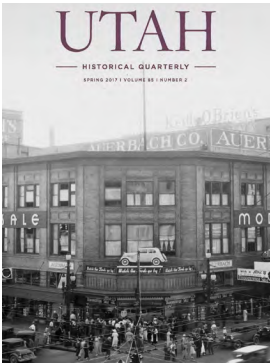
## BOULDER DAM CHAPTER - Boulder City / Las Vegas, Nevada



In March 2021 the Boulder Dam Chapter joined with the Hurricane Utah Chapter for a venture to Hildale, Utah and Colorado City, Arizona communities of the Fundamentalist Latter-Day Saints (FLDS). We met in Hurricane and then traveled about thirty miles where we met our tour guide, Ted Barlow. He talked to us about the history of the communities, about the leaders of the communities and about current activities

and events in the towns. We were shown the living facilities of their leaders, the educational facilities, and the community meeting center. Following this tour, we gathered at Maxwell Park for lunch. This is a beautiful park that sits at the base of some mountains surrounding the community. This was an excellent activity and an opportunity to mingle with other SUP members and their companions.

## BRIGHAM YOUNG CHAPTER - Provo, Utah



Tonya S Reiter presented her acclaimed paper on the Redd Family Histories as published in the Utah Historical Quarterly, winner of the Dale L. Morgan Award and the Clarence Dixon Taylor Award. Click [HERE](#) for a link to this article. Reiter is also a recipient of the Journal of Mormon History Best Article Award for "Black Saviors on Mount Zion: Proxy Baptism and Latter-day Saints of African Descent." A little-known aspect of Utah pioneer history has

been the practice of slavery by Latter-day Saints who converted to the church in the South and brought enslaved men, women and children into the Valley. John Hardison Redd was one of the first settlers in what is now the city of Spanish Fork. When he brought his household to Utah Territory in 1850 it consisted of his wife, their children, five enslaved people, and a bi-racial indentured servant.

## CEDAR CITY CHAPTER - Cedar City, Utah



*Joseph & Emma Smith home*

We were able to virtually tour parts of the Priesthood Restoration site in Pennsylvania. Sisters Greenwood and Jaro started the tour by taking us through the Isaac and Elizabeth Hale home where Joseph and Emma lived for a time. For the time this was a very modern home with many conveniences and decorated with wallpaper. They were blessed later to be able to move into their own home which was sold to them by Emma's father and was just a short distance away. The original home burned down but through pictures of the original it was rebuilt by the church. It was here in this home where 70% of the Book of Mormon

was translated. In the woods near the home Joseph and Oliver went to pray and received the Aaronic Priesthood on May 15, 1829, at the hands of John the Baptist. Under his instructions they baptized each other in the nearby Susquehanna River. Shortly thereafter the Melchizedek Priesthood was restored. The church has made major improvements to this historic site in recent years. Our chapter plans to continue to offer these types of activities on a monthly basis. Our future schedule includes a virtual tour of the Carthage Jail and an outdoor trek to Silver Reef Museum and mining area and other pioneer sites around Leeds, Utah.

## COTTON MISSION CHAPTER - St George, Utah



Scholarship winners

The Cotton Mission Chapter presented scholarships to deserving seniors from area high schools at their April 20 meeting. Due to the Covid restrictions the recipients joined with parents and school counselors to receive the awards from Chapter leaders. Scholarship committee chairman, Durant McArthur and his committee made the presentations live, while the remainder of the chapter members watched via Zoom

technology. Following the ceremony dessert treats were served. Scholarship recipients included: Brinlee Brooks, Success Academy; Emily Gomez, Pine View High School; Calvin Habel, Crimson Cliffs High School; Adam Holt, Enterprise High School; Kirk Jackson, Tuacahn High School of the Arts; Charles Kerr, Dixie High School; Sarah McArthur, Desert Hills High School.

## HURRICANE CHAPTER - Hurricane, Utah



Ted & Destiny Barlow

**March trek to Hildale:** We met with Ted Barlow and his wife Destiny near the Rulon Jeff's compound where Ted gave us some of the history of his community and its leaders. He was willing to take on any question, answering them with courage and openness. We then met at the Water Canyon High School which

had originally been the Bishop's Storehouse, and then to the LeRoy Johnson Meeting house, a building that could house ten thousand people. We then went to the Maxwell Park which was back in the canyon behind Hildale.

**April Event:** After eating a wonderful pot-luck dinner, Paula Hirschi Arriola presented the story of the Workman

family that was such a large part of the settling of Hurricane. It was amazing to once again gather as a group to listen to historical stories and information about this incredible area in which we have the privilege to live! Thank you Paula for blessing us on that night.

**May Event:** We will meet again at the American Legion Hall for a pot-luck dinner on Thursday May 20. We will be privileged to hear from Leon Lewis, one of our local top personal historians. He will speak on the upriver communities and regale us with stories and history of Shunesburg, Springdale and Rockville. Dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m., and the meeting will be shared over Zoom at 7:00. On May 31 we will have a trek to the Shunesburg dwellings and surrounding sites. It is an event you won't want to miss. Visitors are only allowed into Shunesburg just once a year on Memorial Day.

## JORDAN RIVER TEMPLE CHAPTER - South Jordan, Utah

Our program chairman asked for members of our Chapter to give a brief presentation on a pioneer story or experience they shared in the life of an ancestor. We had very good response. Three chapter members gave the following remarks: Ken Buzard, our chapter president, gave an interesting historical background on some of his family members; Jaelynne Hathaway, wife of Kent Hathaway, recited a sad story of a pioneer 12-year-old girl who mourned for her loved ones. She was orphaned while crossing with the pioneers and was eventually reunited with some extended family members in the Salt Lake Valley; John Smith, our Chapter Treasurer and President Elect, gave a presentation on his family member,

Samuel Hollister Rogers who was a member of the Mormon Battalion. As a youth, John grew up in Arizona in an area where the Battalion marched.

**Next month on May 13** we will be meeting all together again for our chapter meeting. At this Chapter meeting we will be awarding the annual scholarship to a young man graduating from Riverton High School who is continuing his academics at Brigham Young University. We plan on some members of his family to also be present. We will also have some musical presentations given for our enjoyment. It is suggested to wear masks covering the nose and mouth when not enjoying your dinner meal.

## MAPLE MOUNTAIN CHAPTER - Mapleton / Spanish Fork, Utah

Bernell and RaNae Taylor, who now live in a barn in Mapleton, gave us a delightful virtual presentation of their mission to the Uganda Kampala Mission where they worked with members of the Church and others teaching the Gospel and rendering humanitarian services. Using a number of photos RaNae helped us to visualize their outstanding services. Bernell discussed the difficulty of pulling people

away from tribal traditions and gave one example of how a young LDS couple wanted to get married in their branch meeting house. Special permission had to be gained from their tribal chief. He finally agreed to allow them to do what they wanted to do without any interference given there were tribal traditions that could have over ridden their wishes. Their presentation was very interesting and inspiring.

## OGDEN PIONEER CHAPTER - Ogden, Utah



Colby Jones

The Ogden Pioneer Chapter has selected its 2021 Scholarship Recipients. These awards, for \$1,000 each, were presented to these outstanding seminary graduates by Don Beesley, Scholarships Chairperson, and Nate Pierce, Chapter President, at the April Chapter Meeting (Zoom). Later in the day certificates were delivered to them in person.

The first recipient was Colby Jones from Fremont High School. Colby is planning on attending Weber State University in the Fall and majoring in Youth Counseling. After graduating from Weber State University, he plans on pursuing a graduate degree in Counseling at the University of Utah. His

essay was A Brief History of Orvil Leon Carnahan, his great-grandfather. Even though he was not a pioneer who crossed the plains, he is a "pioneer" in Colby's eyes. The second scholarship recipient was Daisy Hall from Weber High School. Daisy is still deciding on which college to attend - Ensign College, to pursue a degree in business, or the University of Utah - to pursue a degree in Digital Marketing. Her essay was A Brief History of Heber C. Kimball, her fourth great-grandfather (from his third wife), who was the First Counselor in The First Presidency of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.



Daisy Hall

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## PORTER ROCKWELL CHAPTER - Salt Lake City South, Utah



Mike Hutchings Presenting the Modern Pioneer Award to Elder Rodolfo Franco and Sister Cristina Franco

At our meeting on February 24, the Chapter presented its Modern Pioneer Recognition award to Elder Rodolfo and Sister Cristina Franco. Immigrants from Argentina, they arrived in Utah in the 1970's and quickly established themselves in the community. An entrepreneur and familiar with clocks, Rudy joined with his father-in-law, Hugo Fraga, and established

what became a chain of clock sales and repair stores in several cities in the mountain west, known as Precision Time, one of which was located in our chapter area at Southtowne Mall. Meanwhile, Sister Franco was busy raising their three sons.

Many members of our chapter remember Rudy as their stake president, while at the same time leading the Draper Temple Open House committee. He and Sister Franco presided over the Argentina Resistencia Mission. Following their mission, he served as an Area Seventy. Sister Franco has served in many positions, her present assignment as second counselor in the General Primary Presidency. You remember, she was the one who spoke in last General Conference about an electronic player piano. Elder and Sister Franco are a delightful couple and were our speakers at our February meeting, telling of many other experiences in their lives of service. Having lived in the Draper area for many years, they now reside in South Jordan in the Daybreak neighborhood.

That evening we also installed our chapter leadership for 2021, most of whom continued in their same roles from 2020.

## RED ROCK CHAPTER - Kanab, Utah

The Red Rocks Chapter enjoyed a zoom meeting last month and visited Nauvoo. Two couple missionary couples and two single sister missionaries directed us through a tour of the city. We enjoyed seeing some of the homes along with the history that accompanies those homes as well as information about the building of the original temple and the excitement of the members when that occurred. We were told about

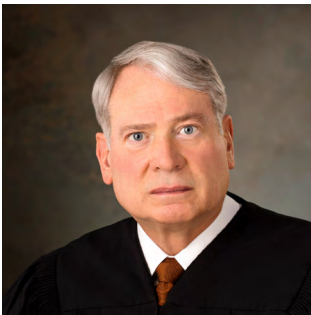
Brothter Weeks who was chosen to design the temple, which was a major task. They told us that designing of the temple was in the making for two years. We saw pictures of some of the stone used in the temple and were told that mortar for the stone was made of lime and clay. It was a very interesting tour of Nauvoo and enjoyed much by our members who could join with us.

## SALT LAKE CITY CHAPTER - Salt Lake City, Utah

Corona Virus (Covid-19) shut down all our activities beginning March 2020 and just now we are starting to see the possibility of opening up again sometime this year. This is the first Newsletter since September 2020 when we announced the closing of all our activities and the status of The National Association of Sons of Utah Pioneers (who closed all theirs for the year). Our president, David Smith, ran into the virus in a big way, causing him to spend several weeks in the hospital,

closing out his apartment, and moving into a senior care center near Logan, Utah. Of necessity, these developments require that we address our situation, so we are intending to initiate some Zoom meetings, first of the members of the Board, then of all members of the chapter. I know of at least one member of the chapter who fled Salt Lake City for a warmer clime (no idea if this is permanent).

## SALT LAKE PIONEER CHAPTER - Downtown Salt Lake City, Utah



*Judge Royal I. Hansen*

Judge Royal I. Hansen, Third District Judge since 2003, appointed by former governor Michael O. Leavitt, spoke to the chapter via Zoom at the April 14 virtual meeting. Recognized for his judicial leadership and high retention ratings, Judge Hansen spoke about his work with Drug and Veterans courts that have had success in reducing recurring crime and increasing rehabilitation. Judge Hansen will retire from the bench in August.



*Randall Olson*

**May 12 ZOOM MEETING:** Randall J Olson, MD, Chair of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences and CEO of the John A. Moran Eye Center at the University of Utah School of Medicine, will be our guest speaker. The Division of Ophthalmology at the University of Utah has undergone incredible growth since Dr. Olson was recruited to spearhead its development. In 1982 the division was accorded departmental status and Dr. Olson

was appointed acting chair. A year later he was selected, and to this day, retains his position as Chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences. In 1986, Dr. Olson proposed the construction of an eye center at the University. Through generous philanthropy, most notably from John A. Moran, the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences was able to move into the new John A. Moran Eye Center in 1993 – an 82,000-square-foot facility dedicated to research, teaching, community outreach and cutting-edge ophthalmic care. By 2004, the department had outgrown its space and Dr. Olson led a drive to build another new eye center which opened August 3, 2006. Over half of this space is dedicated to research. Click [HERE](#) to join us for this Zoom event.

## SETTLEMENT CANYON CHAPTER - Toole, Utah



*Dr. Tom Alexander*

On Thursday April 8th, the Chapter was treated to a fact-filled virtual presentation about Utah's environmental history by Dr. Thomas Alexander. Dr. Alexander is a Professor Emeritus of Western American History at Brigham Young University where he is the award recipient of the Karl G. Maeser Distinguished Faculty Lecture Award, the highest award given to a BYU faculty member. He is the author, coauthor, or co-editor of twenty-seven books and over 150 articles. He is also a past president of the National Organization of the Sons of Utah Pioneers.

Dr. Alexander presented about the drought and therefore food shortage facing the Saints in the decade of the 1850s. He related gems from the leadership of Brigham Young who through strict land management and careful water usage was truly able to tame the wilderness of what then was the Territory of Deseret. He debunked the oft repeated story of there being only one tree in the Salt Lake Valley in 1847, and told of groves of Cottonwood trees and native grasses. The foundation of Brigham Young's agricultural guidance was that the earth is a living entity. Man may plant her, but God controls the growth. Our next virtual presentation on May 13 will be by author and leadership trainer Ron Andersen who is best known for his books about Abraham Lincoln and Abraham Lincoln and Joseph Smith, two contemporaries who changed the face of American History.

## TIMPANOGOS CHAPTER - American Fork, Utah

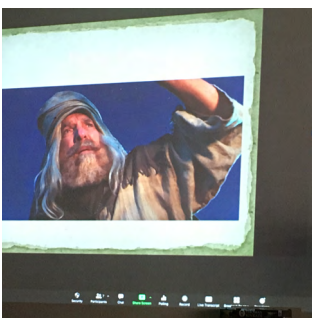


*Jay Sitterud*

On April 15th our guest speaker via ZOOM was Jay Sitterud. Brother Sitterud gave a presentation entitled, "Missionary Work in a Changing World." Contrasting the way his father served a mission in Norway in 1939 by soap box on a street corner, or on his own first mission by memorized lessons through door to door contacting in the Andes South Mission in the 1960's. In 2003, while serving as Mission President in Venezuela, the Church introduced "concepts" to be taught

in the missionary's own words and let the Spirit direct them. Then in 2012 as President of the MTC in Spain, missionaries were issued i-pads, i-phones and other electronic devices. Talented technology missionaries contacted thousands on facebook to share messages and obtain referrals. As Elder Dieter F. Uchtdorf of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles once said, "This is truly an exciting time in the history of the world. The possibilities are endless."

## UPPER SNAKE RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER - Rexburg, Idaho



*Rick Macy Portraying Lehi*

At our April 2021 meeting, Ron Browning introduced his long-time family friend, Rick Macy, who is well-known for his roles in LDS media. His presentation was via Zoom from his home in Provo. Rick talked about his experiences portraying Helam in the major church movie, "The Testament," his role as Joseph Smith, Sr. in "Joseph Smith: An American Prophet," and as Lehi in the "Book of Mormon Video Series." Rick was promised in his patriarchal blessing that his talents would be used to build the Kingdom of God and this was his dominant theme during his presentation.

**"Chapter of Excellence" Award.** For the second year in a row, the Upper Snake River Valley Chapter has received the "Chapter of Excellence" Award from the National Society. Only a few chapters qualify for this award each year—we congratulate the chapter members for qualifying for this award again!

**"Carry On" Merit Award.** These awards will be presented at our May Member's Meeting to four senior students, one each from South Fremont, Sugar/Salem, Madison, and Rigby high schools. They will receive a beautiful-framed pioneer picture and a cash award to help them with their education or mission plans.