

# Trail Marker

VOLUME 18

PIONEERING  
YESTERDAY, TODAY &  
TOMORROW  
ISSUE 207

11 NUMBER

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The 12th of October we remember the arrival of Columbus to the new world. With the arrival of Columbus, a cascade of events started that had an effect on the world. The pilgrims left their native countries in search of religious freedoms, explorers traveled the oceans in search of treasures and lands, to enrich their home countries. The individuals that settled the new world became disheartened with the controls of the mother countries and rebelled. This rebellion led to a organization of the various colonies into a strong unified country that had many flaws, that we

are still trying to resolve with all its flaws this new country/government allowed for the development of individual freedoms and an environment that allowed the organization of new religions and the establishment of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

Due to various political and social biases the members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints were driven from their homes, farms temples and finally they arrived at the basin of the Great Salt Lake. We as members of The Sons of the Utah Pioneers trace our legacy back to these early faithful individuals that walked, rode, and cried crossing the vast American prairies and the mountains to arrive at the valley of the Great Salt Lake.

The mission statement of The National Society of the Sons of the Utah Pioneers states Preserve the memory and heritage of the early pioneers of the Utah Territory and the western United States, how will you meet this challenge to preserve their memories?

### IN THIS ISSUE

PAGE 2 FALL TREK REPORT

PAGE 3 THE FIRST HANDCART CAPTAIN

PAGE 4 A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED HISTORIC CITY

PAGE 5 PAST & UPCOMING EVENTS IN YOUR CHAPTER



Examples in my family to preserve their memories are thru family reunions, my family had taken their children to the cemetery to visit the graves of our pioneer forefathers and at their grave site stories were told of their life experiences and histories. Our family has donated journals and other artifacts to universities and museums for preservation and historical research.

overflowing plates, naps, and football games take the time to remember your pioneers whether new or old and I promise you that you and your family will be well rewarded.

Happy Thanksgiving



John Clayton  
2022 National President

# NATIONAL NEWS

## NATIONAL TREK WAS WONDERFUL



Joseph Smith Birthplace Monument, Sharon, VT



Smith Family Monument, Topsfield, VT



Alvin Smith Grave, Palmyra, NY



Boston, MA



Tarble Homesite, Afton, NY



Knight Home & Colesville Branch, Near Afton, NY



Joseph & Emma Smith Home, Harmony, PA



Newel K. Whitney Home, Kirtland, OH



Kirtland Ohio Temple



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



Please enjoy reading and submitting at: [suponline.org/pioneer-stories](https://suponline.org/pioneer-stories).

## EDMUND ELLSWORTH: CAPTAIN OF THE FIRST HANDCART COMPANY

While a missionary in England, Edmund Ellsworth, a son-in-law of Brigham Young, had a recurring dream about leading a handcart company to Utah. Although this method of emigrant transportation had never before been used, he began advocating it as an inexpensive method of travel. When his call to lead the first handcart company actually came, Ellsworth readily accepted the assignment.

On June 9, the great handcart experiment began. With buoyant spirits and an enthusiastic send off, they set out across Iowa. There were about 280 people, including a man aged 71 and the youthful Birmingham Brass Band. Each traveler was allowed only 17 pounds of luggage. The wagon assigned to the handcart company hauled supplies. There was a tent for each 20 people.

The first day the emigrants traveled only four miles. Then, they had to remain idle for a day while the men searched for strayed oxen. With the animals recovered, the company set out again, only to have two of the poorly constructed handcarts break down. On June 12th a young boy died, soon to be followed by the deaths of other children and adults.

Initially their progress had been slow, but the pace increased. They averaged seven miles a day the first week, almost 13 miles per day the next week and then they hit their stride covering up to 20 miles a day before reaching Florence, Nebraska. Daily food rations for adults were between one-half and one pound of flour, plus two ounces of rice, three ounces of sugar, and one-half pound of bacon per week. Children got less. At Kanessville, Iowa, they purchased two more wagons and additional livestock.

Much of the time there was spent making major repairs to the carts. To minimize wear, workmen installed tin boxes in the hubs and thick iron hoops around the axles. Finally ready, they left Florence on July 20 with 55 handcarts, each laden with up to 500 pounds of supplies and luggage. There were also three wagons, three mules, one horse, and six yoke of oxen. On July 26 lightning killed one man, knocked down two other adults, and burned a boy. The road was sometimes muddy, often sandy and hilly. Once they waited more than an hour for a buffalo herd to cross the road. Hunters killed some of the buffalo for food.



On August 8, a man turned up missing and was not found until the next day, five miles ahead of the company. On August 31 they met five supply wagons that had been sent from the valley to assist them. The company reached Devil's Gate and passed by the old Fort Seminoe trading post on September 8. On September 11 they took the Seminoe Cutoff, an alternate route that tracked south of Rocky Ridge, bypassing it and four crossings of the Sweetwater. Ellsworth had taken this cut-off in 1854 when traveling to serve his mission in

England. His company was the first westbound Mormon emigrant group to take the Seminoe Cut-off.

After traveling nearly night and day to overtake them, Daniel McArthur's handcart company pulled in at almost 11:00 p.m. and camped beside Ellsworth's company at present-day Alkali Creek on the cutoff. On September 13th at Pacific Springs they found John Banks' wagon train. It had left Florence 10 days ahead of them. Handcarts regularly arrived in camp long before accompanying wagons, and handcart captains often complained that wagons slowed them down.

Even through the mountains they averaged over 20 miles per day. Proving their fitness, they climbed up and over Big Mountain in less than three hours. They camped at the foot of Little Mountain and the next day, September 26th, entered the Salt Lake Valley. There a welcoming committee headed by Brigham Young met them and treated them to a melon party. While Ellsworth's group feasted on melons, McArthur's handcart company pulled up and the two handcart groups joined the First Presidency, the Nauvoo Brass Band, H. B. Clawson's company of lancers, and many local citizens in a grand parade into the city. Hundreds of citizens joined them and spectators cheered.

Sixteen people had died. Some had questioned the ability of women and children to travel by handcart. Numerous children walked the whole way and Ellsworth said that women withstood the rigors of the trail better than men of comparable age. In the end, Ellsworth's dream of handcart travel enabled thousands of Latter-day Saints to go to Zion who otherwise would not have been able to go.

(<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/memories/KWNK-QMM>)

# Monument Trek

## Orson Hyde O'Grave



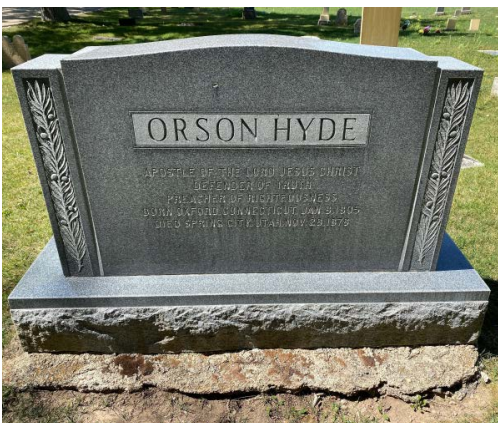
Spring City, Sanpete County, Utah

A onetime pastor under Sidney Rigdon's "restorationist" sect, Orson Hyde was introduced to the true restoration of the gospel by former friend Parley P. Pratt. In Kirtland, he marched with Zions Camp after which he was called and ordained under the hands of the Three Witnesses and the Prophet Joseph Smith to be a member of the original Quorum of the Twelve Apostles. In the Far West era, he began to heed disgruntled teachings from his former Quorum President, Thomas B. Marsh, who had left the Church whereupon he was dropped from the Twelve. Orson soon humbly sought forgiveness and was reinstated to his former position. While in Nauvoo he was called by the Prophet Joseph to Palestine to dedicate the Holy Land, which he successfully accomplished in nearly a three-year journey. His companion was Elder John E. Page, but before they could even leave the country, Page became disaffected and went off on his own way, which left Hyde alone to fulfill the mission. To showcase his brilliance, during this trek he was delayed in Germany for two weeks. By the end of his first week, he could write in German; by the end of his second week he could speak the language fluently and even managed to publish a pamphlet of the First Vision in that language. He spent the last years of his life presiding over the Latter-day Saints in Sanpete County until his death in 1878. After being called to preside over the area Hyde originally settled in Manti, but later moved to Spring City with six wives and many children. The large rock home in the center of town served as his official residence with Mary Ann

Price Hyde and family. Other wives lived in more modest dwellings.

Spring City was originally settled in 1852 by James Allred and about a dozen other families. It is one of eleven existing original pioneer settlements in the Sanpete Valley of Central Utah and is considered by many historians as the best representation of original nineteenth pioneer character. Although it was abandoned for a few years because of Native American troubles, little by little the population grew. It is one of only two sites in the United States where the entire city is a Historic District on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places because it graphically documents the techniques of the pioneer's unique town planning system; and the architecture in the town is remarkably well preserved with the abundant variety of historically religious buildings, homes, and small commercial establishments. Within the city four houses date to the 1860s, twenty-four from the 1870s, and twenty from the 1880s. Other historic buildings include a rock chapel, bishop's storehouse, Relief Society granary, firehouse, theater, jail, and school, of which also served as an office by Elder Hyde. It's also believed that this building was once used to perform sacred ordinances for worthy Church members before the Manti Temple was completed.

The historic cemetery, where Hyde is buried, is located immediately west of town on state highway 117, not to be confused with the smaller cemetery within the city.





# CHAPTER 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 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](mailto: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!

NAME .....CHAPTER

### CHAPTER ETERNAL

Allen Christensen. .... Timpanogos  
 David N Cox. .... Lehi  
 Margery Peterson. .... Timpanogos  
 Keith Willyerd ..... Grove City

### NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Brent Hunt. .... Settlement Canyon  
 Ronald P Snarr ..... Mills

### NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Nereece Herd ..... Porter Rockwell  
 Sharon West ..... Porter Rockwell

NAME .....CHAPTER

### NEW MEMBERSHIPS

Dell J Argyle ..... Ogden Pioneer  
 Eldon McArthur ..... Cotton Mission  
 Steve Perry ..... Cotton Mission  
 Richard Searle. .... Timpanogos  
 Aaron Bradshaw. .... The Mountain Valley  
 Greg Coon ..... Mills  
 Russell Jensen. .... Pocatello (Portneuf Pioneers)  
 Terence A Lenio ..... Cotton Mission  
 Jeffrey A Lowe ..... Box Elder  
 Thomas Palmer. .... Mesa  
 Brent Verlo Petersen ..... Ogden Pioneer  
 Gary D Snowden. .... Cedar City

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

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

In September, some members of the Boulder Dam Chapter enjoyed the activities of the National Encampment in Salt Lake City, Utah. The members were able to enjoy interesting topics from speakers and listened to wonderful music. Brother Curtis talked about the Vanguard Company that came in the Salt Lake Valley and then we were entertained with the music and songs of Brian Stucki. Several tours were available, but

our members enjoyed the Tooele, Utah tour which included The Benson Grist Mill, Tooele Valley Railroad Museum, and the Anderson/Clark Farm. Some members went to the Stadler building where trains are built. An evening with Sunshade 'n Rain performing group had everyone singing and tapping their feet to a lot of "oldies" songs. A great atmosphere and an opportunity to renew old friendships.

## BRIGHAM YOUNG CHAPTER - Provo / Orem, Utah



T. C. Christensen

**OCTOBER MEETING** - T. C. Christensen, director of many films, enthralled our Chapter with his experiences. Some of his films include: *Joseph Smith: the Prophet of the Restoration*, *17 Miracles*, and *The Cokeville Miracle*. T. C. Christensen spent much of his time on his most recent project, *The Fighting Preacher*, the story of Willard and Rebecca Bean. Using clips from *The Fighting Preacher*, T.C. highlighted several tender moments from the film, including an addition suggested by a black actor. Acting as an angel sent to help Sister Bean, he added the phrase, "I know about being hated even before people know you". T. C. cast a new actress as a schoolteacher who perpetuated some of the cruelty shown towards Palmyra, the Bean's daughter. Seeing the school children reflecting the cruelty she herself had shown, the unpracticed actress showed, without speaking a word, her growing recognition of the evil that prejudice wreaked upon an innocent child. The actress later shared that her father was sent to Nauvoo to work on a project when she was a little girl, and that while there she was herself treated exactly as was Palmyra in the film. T. C. Christensen concluded with Sister Bean's testimony, in a

clip from the film, that if you put one foot in front of the other and do the daily tasks placed in your path, you will have served our Savior and will receive His love for your efforts.

**SEPTEMBER MEETING** - Award winning author, Keith A. Erekson, presented some ideas on "How to Dispel Latter-day Myths" at our September meeting for the Brigham Young Chapter. He pointed out how myths can be easy to believe when they reinforce what we want to believe and if they come from groups we relate with and enjoy a positive bias towards. Sadly, one myth is true. Utah has more fraud convictions per capita than other states in our country. We would benefit by not rushing to conclusions. There is a beloved myth of unexplained shafts placed in the blue prints of the Salt Lake Temple for unknown reasons by inspiration, later usable for elevators. The shaft is in the blue print. It is clearly marked as an elevator shaft. Elevators had long been invented and used in other buildings. The shafts were good planning, but not revelation. We should always seek truth. The more truth we know about God, the better prepared we may be to deal with whatever trials we may encounter.

## CEDAR CITY CHAPTER - Cedar City, Utah



Andrea Nelson

Our major activity in October was a trek to Peter's Leap on Saturday, October 15th. Andrea Shirts Nelson, who is a direct descendent of Peter Shirts, shared with us her research into his history. He was a very colorful character and factored into much of the history of our area. He was an original settler of Cedar City having settled and built Hamilton Fort south of town. Shirts Canyon and Shirts Creek are named after him. He built Shirts Canyon lumbermill, was a founder of Old Iron Town that exploited the Blow-Out Pit to make the iron that was used to fabricate the oxen in the St. George Temple.

Peter was hired as road commissioner in 1856 and assigned to build a road between Iron County and St. George with a budget of \$350. Everything went smoothly until they reached the Black Ridge and a deep ravine they needed to cross. When asked how they were going to do that, he responded, "Leap It." Hence, the name of Peter's Leap and Leap Creek by which the area is known today. Thanks to Roice & Andrea Nelson and Kevin Kilcoyne for a great trek and providing perfect weather. Our next activity will be an Awards Banquet and Potluck dinner on November 7.



Peter's Leap

## CENTERVILLE CHAPTER - Centerville, Utah



Jerry Ellison has been an avid wildlife photographer for 50 years and has been featured in many articles and websites. His presentation to the Sons of the Utah Pioneers Centerville Chapter in September was on the joy of having a pastime/hobby of wildlife photography for seniors. Jerry has lived in Centerville since 1970, married to Diane Berrett for 56 years and they have had five children. He is a retired Air Traffic Controller. Jerry loves the great outdoors and the wonderful wildlife found in nature. He

showed a variety of beautiful pictures which included many varieties of birds and animals in various outdoor settings. His mother gave him a camera when he was a youth and has loved taking pictures ever since. He loves going to Antelope Island and many other outdoor areas. During his presentation he often used his favorite saying which is "You never know unless you go." His work can be found on the website, [Fineartamerica.com/profiles/jerry-ellison](http://Fineartamerica.com/profiles/jerry-ellison).

## COTTON MISSION CHAPTER - St George, Utah



*Susan Easton Black*

At our dinner meeting Tuesday October 18 we were privileged to hear from noted historian and author, Susan Easton Black. Susan discussed the interesting life of Martin Harris and his contributions to LDS Church history. He was always searching for the "true" church and when the Smith family came to town he grasped the Gospel message taught by Joseph Smith. As a financially successful young gentleman he was one of the most faithful members in the early church and financed the publishing of the Book of Mormon by mortgaging his farm. As one of

the witnesses to the gold plates he was always faithful to that testimony. It was mostly the failure of the Kirtland Safety Society that led to Martin's leaving the church. He remained in Kirtland when the Saints moved on but always remained true to his testimony of the plates. In his old age he returned to Utah to stay with his son. Everywhere he went the people wanted to hear his personal account of knowing the Prophet Joseph and seeing the plates. He was eventually re-baptized into the Church and died in Utah.

## JORDAN RIVER TEMPLE CHAPTER - South Jordan, Utah



*Boyd and Kathy Knight*

Newell Boyd Knight and his wife, Kathy presented a wonderful program on the life of some of his relatives. His great grandfather was Jesse Knight. And, his great great grandfather was Newell Knight. Newell Boyd Knight, he goes by Boyd, wrote a biography entitled "Uncle Jesse" about his great grandfather Jesse Knight "Mining Magnate." His great grandfather lived from 1815 to 1921. The photo shows Boyd holding a copy of the biography he wrote on "Uncle Jesse." Jesse Knight was five years old when

he came to the Salt Lake valley. He was not active in the Church until his daughter was healed by a Priesthood blessing. After his activity in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints he became very generous with his financial support for the Church and for BYU. His fortune came from many many industries and corporations that he was involved with. Jessie was even credited with being the founder of the Canadian city of Raymond in Alberta. Thank you Boyd and Kathy for a most interesting presentation.



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

Bob Smith is the Chairman of the ANS Legacy Foundation, DBA iDigNauvoo, President of the Samuel H. Smith Foundation, Director of Operations for iDigNauvoo, and co-founder of the iDigNauvoo project. He is a retired employee of Brigham Young University, and now spends much of his retirement on the iDigNauvoo project. He and his lovely wife, Becky Smith, a crew chief, work together on the project every summer. As descendants of Samuel H. Smith, family history is a very important part of their lives. His presentation to our Maple Mountain Chapter focused on a number of archeology digs of prominent homes and stores of old Nauvoo and even grave sites. Even though some of the places have been restored there are many that haven't been.

Those that haven't, still have some rocky foundations that Bob and others dig around to find the relics of those early times. Those included the Porter Rockwell store, the Samuel H. Smith store location and the Joseph Smith Senior log cabin. They have found many kinds of artifacts that tells about those places of importance. Of interest was that he and his wife have worked closely with members of the Community of Christ Church in doing their digs. Another thing they looked for were the burial sites of the prominent leaders of the Church including Samuel Smith and Don Carlos Smith. His legacy is to connect in some historical way with those of the past given his relationship to them.

## MORGAN CHAPTER - Morgan, Utah



Mary Ellen Elggren

The Morgan Chapter of the Sons of Utah Pioneers gathered on Monday for their monthly luncheon and seminar. After a tasty meal by Birt Brothers Barbecue, members were treated to an informative discussion by local tour guide and owner of Clawson Tours of Salt Lake City, Mary Ellen Elggren. Mary Ellen has been providing tour guide services since 1974 in most areas of the US and is now specializing in guided services throughout the State of Utah. She is a founding member of the Utah Tour Guide Association, serving several times as the group's president. As a director of one of the Family Search Family History Centers she also helps groups interested in genealogy research. Mary Ellen

discussed some of the history and features that make Utah both unique and beautiful. Her discussion included some of the history of the prehistoric Lake Bonneville and the current great Salt Lake. Discussion included both the current and historical recreational and economical value of this unique local treasure. Part of the presentation also centered on the Bingham Copper Mines west of Salt Lake City and the economic value and interest to those visiting from out of town. She is passionate about the uniqueness and beauty of our state and how we, who live here, should appreciate and take care of our stewardship.

## MOUNTAIN VALLEY CHAPTER - Heber City, Utah



Peace Treaty



Wasatch Stake Tabernacle

The Mountain Valley Chapter held their monthly Chapter meeting on October 28. It was held on Friday morning and went into the afternoon. The chapter held a trek exploring the history and sites of some of the remaining dwindling historic buildings left in the Heber Valley. Special thanks are given to the Local Senior Citizens center for allowing the chapter the use of their buses. The chapter also gathered for a lunch during the tour.



## OGDEN PIONEER CHAPTER - Ogden, Utah



*Dr. Noel Nellis*

The Ogden Pioneer Chapter honored Dr. Noel Nellis, M.D., as a 21st Century Pioneer at its October chapter meeting. Dr. Nellis is a retired thoracic and cardiovascular surgeon, who is well known for his "pioneering" efforts in many areas of general, thoracic, and cardiovascular surgery. He was called to active duty with the U.S. Army and served as the chief of surgery at Bassett Army Hospital, Ft. Wainright, in Fairbanks, Alaska. While serving in Alaska he pioneered and developed new techniques for progressive

treatment for frostbite. During his career in medicine, he served in many responsible positions in his church, and participated in community service organizations and as president of several professional societies. He retired from the U.S. Air Force as a Colonel, and after retirement served as an area medical advisor for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for sixteen years. Dr. Nellis currently serves as a Sealer in the Ogden Utah Temple and is a Board Member of the Ogden Pioneer Chapter of SUP.

## PORTNEUF CHAPTER - Pocatello, Idaho



*Bruce & Karen Winegar*

At the October meeting we honored Bruce and Karen Winegar with the chapter's 2022 Modern Pioneer Award. Bruce was born in Salt Lake City and raised in Payson, Utah. After high school he was called to the Korean Mission. A year later he and Karen were married in the Salt Lake Temple. Bruce is certified as a Master Gardener. Bruce retired after 32 working with the J.R. Simplot Company in Pocatello. Bruce served as Bishop and

later as Stake President. In 2007, Karen and Bruce were called to preside over the New Jersey Cherry Hill Mission. The couple served as ordinance workers in the Idaho Falls Temple. Later Bruce was called as a sealer and in 2019 they were called as First Counselor and Assistant Matron in the Idaho Falls Temple Presidency. On April 1, 2020, Bruce and Karen were called to be the President and Matron of the Pocatello Temple.

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



*Melvin L. Gardner*

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

**When:** Wednesday, October 9th at Noon.

**Location:** Thomas S. Monson Center Carriage House, 411 E. South Temple (rear building of the complex).

**Cost:** \$25 per person.

**Speaker:** Currently, Melvin Gardner and his wife Marelle, serve as Branch President and Relief Society President of the Fayette Branch, under the direction the Utah Area Presidency providing ecclesiastical support (hope and help) to Church members and others residing in homeless shelters and permanent supportive housing units.

## TAYLORSVILLE-BENNION CHAPTER - Taylorsville, Utah

The Taylorsville-Bennion Chapter had another great chapter meeting this month. We had a couple of our own members tell us about themselves and their history. Paul Bambrough shared some thoughts from the Prophets and other individuals. These were great to be reminded of and for us to keep in mind. Delton Campbell gave us a history of himself and how it was for him growing up in Hatch, Utah. It was very interesting. For November, we are going to have John Elggren, National SUP Treasurer come and

speak to us. We invite anyone who would like to come to meet with us. We meet at Jim's Restaurant in West Jordan at 6:30 pm. We have a dinner and then our program follows. Each person pays for their own dinner. In December, we are going to have the Taylorsville High School Madrigals come and perform for us. We may be a small group, but we enjoy getting together among friends once a month to enjoy the programs that we have.

## TEMPLE FORK CHAPTER - Logan, Utah



*Modern Pioneer Award*

Temple Fork Chapter was honored with the visit of John Clayton at our October 20 dinner meeting. He presented DeLoy Frank Johnson the Modern Pioneer Award, for his being a first fellow/male nurse, to be received into Utah by reciprocity. Having been retained in the Army without an assignment and no pay for 9 years, the only place he could work without a Selective Service card was health care. The Sacred Heart Hospital in Idaho Falls, Idaho adopted and trained him. He went on to several hospitals in Utah including the LDS

Hospital in Salt Lake City. He is the first fellow BSN from U of U, when he finally received his discharge from the Army. He received clinical masters in cardiovascular, public health, and oncology. He was drafted again and served in the Air Force. Following which he taught vocational health for the BIA, then served as a teacher and school nurse for the DODDS in Germany. He was called to serve again in Desert Storm. All this while serving as husband, father, and in LDS Church leadership positions such as bishop and stake presidency.

## TIMPANOGOS CHAPTER - American Fork, Utah



*Les & Barbra Langford*

The Timpanogos Chapter held their monthly dinner meeting on October 20, 2022 in the American Fork Senior Citizen Center, American Fork, Utah. The main speaker was Les Langford who spoke on "Stephen Markham, Man of Valor." While Les and his wife Barbara were serving missions at the Liberty Jail, many would ask about Stephen Markham who joined the church in 1837. During that time The Kirtland Temple was built and important keys were restored. The failure of the Kirtland Safety Society forced Joseph Smith and Sidney Rigdon to flee to Far West, Missouri in January 1838. Under the direction of the prophet, Stephen Markham helped 60 families move to Far West. Stephen Markham was assigned to assist Emma Smith and her four small children across the frozen Mississippi River. After Stephen helped Emma

and her children safely travel the 170 miles to Quincy, he returns and takes his own family to Quincy. He then returns and takes a third family the 170 miles to Quincy. After Nauvoo was established, Stephen Markham served as Brigadier General in the Nauvoo Legion. Later when the Prophet was in Carthage Jail Stephen sold his own home and gave the money to Joseph for legal fees. He moved his own family into a tent. During that time, he and his wife Hannah lost their only daughter, 13-year-old Dinah. On July 22, 1847 Stephen Markham led a Vanguard Company which entered the Salt Lake Valley. The company was known as the Stephen Markham Company. Stephen settled Spanish Fork and was the first bishop of Spanish Fork. Stephen married eight wives and had 18 children. He is buried in the Spanish Fork cemetery.

## UPPER SNAKE RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER - Rexburg, Idaho



*Doug Conway and Todd Grant*

This month we enjoyed blue-chip entertainment! In the business portion of the meeting, nominations were opened for three officers: President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. No nominations were given from the floor so the nomination-committee will do their work behind the scenes to approach a few people to fill these positions. Their names will be presented at our meeting in November for a vote. Todd Grant presented our chapter with a finely fashioned pioneer wagon with the name of our chapter on the outside. Doug Conway received this gift on behalf of our chapter. Todd is appreciative of the quality of programs

and service our chapter is doing. A musical number was presented by Karolyn Rojas, Amy Steiger, and Jill Evans. Amy sang with Karolyn accompanying her on the violin and Jill on the piano. They will perform this same number at a special program this next weekend. The program was presented by Doug Conway. His topic was about Nick Wilson, the White-Indian Boy. Elijah Nicolas Wilson is Doug's great, great, great grand-uncle and Doug has enjoyed learning about this historic ancestor. Several books have been written about him and a movie was made entitled "Wind River."