

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Welcome to each of you as we begin the 2021-2022 year for the National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers. It is humbling and an honor as I begin my tenure as the President of this wonderful organization. As I look at the footsteps of those preceding me, it is easily recognizable that their shoes cannot be filled. I do commit, however, to give it all that I have for the continued success we are all seeking. An expression of special appreciation and gratitude needs to be given to Wayne Hinton who guided us through the far-reaching arms of the pandemic 2019-2020 and Brad Clayton

for his masterful handling of the process as it continued and then the beginning of what is often referred to as the "new normal" during his 2020-2021 leadership. That is something we are all seeking. Brad has given tremendous vision and leadership which has blessed all of us. We also welcome John Clayton as our new President-elect and express special appreciation to John Elggren as the National Treasurer/Secretary for guiding the day-to-day operations of the organization.

These officers have not been sitting idle during this pandemic. In fact, it has been a very busy time concluding with a very successful 2021 National Encampment hosted by the Upper Snake River Valley Chapter on September 16-18. A special "Thank you!" to Martel Grover and all associated individuals and chapters who worked with him. Next year's Encampment will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah. During the recent Encampment Val Parrish both motivated and excited us on what to expect for the 2022 National Encampment, September 8-10, 2022. Put the date on your calendar right now and plan on joining us for an outstanding event commemorating the 175th Anniversary of the Pioneer Saints entering the Salt Lake valley.

Two other noteworthy items are the recent publication of Pioneer magazine's "This is the Place" issue. I examined it today at This is the Place Pioneer Park and it is beautifully done. You will love reading it, I promise. And second, the name of the "At-Large Chapter" has been renamed the "Worldwide Chapter of

# IN THIS ISSUE A CHALLENGE FROM OUR NEW NATIONAL PRESIDENT REPORT ON THE 2021 NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT A TESTIMONY OF JOSEPH SMITH FROM THE "LAST LEAF" THE ANGEL OF DEATH SHALL LAY WASTE MOST RECENT NEWS OF YOUR LOCAL CHAPTER UPCOMING NATIONAL **EVENTS**

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Sons of Utah Pioneer". Mike Poulos from Lehi will serve as its Chapter President. Currently there are 305 members who are not affiliated with any Chapter.

The word "Pioneer" is defined to mean someone who leads the way, to guide or originate or to take part in the development of. Our progenitors did just that; they have shown us the way. Their effort and sacrifice blessed them. Whether this heritage blesses us depends on what we do with it. To be blessed by this heritage, we need to know and understand it, act on it, and build on it. As such, my focus as Chapter President will be on the following:

- 1. Provide the tools and strategy to grow the number of Chapters and increase membership in each Chapter.
- 2. Our Mission Statement articulates well our goals including the vision to "teach these same qualities [the mission and Pioneer values] to the youth who will be tomorrow's pioneers." We want to unitedly increase our effort to bring the next generation into the Society.
- 3. Ensure long term sound financial focus and strategy. Leverage more fully utilization of the "Sustaining Heritage Membership" and "Legacy Society" to strengthen our mission.
- 4. Our flagship is the published quarterly Pioneer magazine. We will implement ways to use the magazine even more effectively as an outreach to the world using all forms of technology.
- 5. Society and particularly our following generations live in a technology rich world. We are doing some good things in this area but there is much more that can be done to help reach the a much larger audience.
- 6. We are living in an exceedingly difficult environment at a time when our members really need and are seeking socialization. An exerted effort will focus on ways to help Chapters more fully meet the needs of members as we continue to transition to the "New Normal".

We are all pioneers in our own way and have a rich heritage that precedes us. We live in an ever-changing time. As evil increases in the world, there is a special gift of spiritual strength that comes as we learn and study our roots and the great tests that our pioneer ancestors faced and overcame. That scaffolding helps us, and our posterity face our trials with more courage, complete honesty, deeper integrity, and with greater faith and confidence. Pioneer heritage to me is a treasure and Sons of Utah Pioneers has inspired and motivated me to continue my journey of understanding my roots and those around me. I know it can do the same for all of us.

As I was reading in the Book of Mormon verse 6 in Alma chapter 5 resonated with me by changing one word. "Have you sufficiently retained a remembrance of the [lives] of your fathers?" How many of your children and grandchildren know and remember the lives and traditions of your/their ancestors?

As I have had the privilege of sealing families together in the temple, the Spirit often reminds me that "As we remember them...they remember us!" So, to conclude my message I would like to leave you with a question and a challenge.

**Question:** What does dodransbicentenial mean and how does it relate to you? (*Answer at back*)

**Challenge:** Immediately identify the names of your four grandparents and your eight great-grandparents. Starting in October and each month following take one name starting with your father's father and learn about him identifying 2-3 stories that you would want to share with your children. Write the stories and share with your children. At the end of 12 months, you will have completed 12 brief insights into the lives of these ancestors.

Larry M. Gibson 2022 National President



CONGRATULATIONS TO JOHN CLAYTON ON WINNING 2022 NATIONAL PRESIDENT-ELECT



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Farewell to Wayne as the Former Past President



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*Larry taking the Oath as 2022 National President* 



John Clayton taking the Oath as the new 2023 President-Elect



Flag Display



Encampment Committee Chairs



The President's Banquet



Bear River Massacre site



Kirkham's Old Car Collection



Thursday Readers Theater Group



Flight Museum



Women's Meeting



Saturday Musical Number



Beet Factory Tour 2



Ladies Service Project



Friday Entertainment



The Nauvoo Historic District is a National Historic Landmark and is the largest historic site of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. In the midst of Nauvoo stand additional unique memorials to the past in the form of log cabins, dedicated to unique pioneer lives. One such is to the Field family.

When Mary Field Garner was born in 1836, the Restored Church was only six years old. Her parents joined after hearing Wilford Woodruff preach in Herefordshire, England and emigrated to Nauvoo when Mary was five years old. She wrote,

"Here we lived in peace and happiness under the leadership and guidance of the Prophet Joseph Smith. Here he stood at the head of this dispensation, as Adam stands in the forefront of the human race. We were very glad to attend church and listen to the Prophet Joseph and other leading brethren teach the Gospel of Jesus Christ to us. We marveled at Joseph's superior intelligence of the Gospel and the simple way he

could explain it unto the Saints, so that the most unlearned member could know and understand the truth."

In her autobiography, Garner recorded her brother assisted in fighting the mob of 200 men for three days until they were forced to surrender the city, crossing the Mississippi River when it was iced over, the burning of the Nauvoo Temple, and living in Council Bluffs. She gave great detail into the trials of crossing the plains including nearly being kidnapped by a Native American Chief because of her long red hair. After her husband William died in 1915, she took care of herself until she fell and broke her right hip. She had only seen a doctor once in her life before her fall, never needed glasses, and enjoyed good health.



William Field Cabin



Mary Field Garner

At the time of the martyrdom, she was eight years old and lived until the age of 107, the last living witness of the life of the Prophet Joseph Smith, and so was called "the Last Leaf,". Near the end of her life she bore this testimony:

"It is said I am the only living witness to have actually seen and known the prophet Joseph Smith, and I want to bear my testimony to the world and especially to every Latter-Day Saint to the truthfulness of the Gospel as revealed through the Prophet Joseph, that Jesus Christ is the

Savior of mankind, that Joseph Smith was a true and living prophet of God, that he was divinely called of God to establish his true Gospel on this earth in the last dispensation. That he was a true and faithful leader of the Saints and that the principles he advocated were true and correct beyond a doubt, that he lived the Gospel as he taught it to his people, that he did seal his testimony with his blood, that I was in Nauvoo at the time of the martyrdom and I did see their bodies returned to Nauvoo to be prepared for

burial, that I did view the bodies before they were buried. That Brigham Young and all the other presidents of our Church have been true prophets of God who were divinely called to lead and teach this people as they should be taught. I am glad my parents embraced the Gospel in England and came to Zion. I am thankful that I was permitted to live in this last dispensation when the Gospel was restored to the earth by the prophet Joseph Smith and of being many, many times in his presence. There is no doubt in my mind of the truthfulness of the Gospel and it is my desire to live the Gospel to the best of my ability for the rest of my life, that I may be found worthy to again associate with my family and the other righteous Saints."

Mary is buried in the Hooper City Cemetery in Utah.

4

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.

# THE ANGEL OF DEATH SHALL LAY WASTE

Maria Jackson Normington Parker

by Wayne K. Hinton, Past National President of Sons of Utah Pioneers

My grandmother Hinton's grandmother was named Maria Jackson Normington Parker. She was my great, great Grandmother. Maria was a family name, Jackson her maiden name, Normington came from her first husband and Parker from her second husband.

Maria was born December 25, 1820 at Burnley, Lancashire, England to Robert and Jane Thornton Jackson. Before her fifth birthday Maria began winding bobbins at a cotton factory. She was intelligent by nature, but had little opportunity to attend school so she left little written record of her life.

On September 29, 1839 Maria married Thomas Normington. Soon children arrived. Joseph, born in 1840, died the next day. Matthew Heber followed in 1841, and Jane Ann in 1843. Matthew died in 1843, as did Jane Ann in 1851. Lovina was born in 1845, Mary Ellen in 1847, Hanna in 1849, Ephraim Robert in 1850 and Daniel in 1854.

On November 20, 1840 Maria was baptized a member of the Church. Her husband was baptized ten days later. For years they dreamed of joining the Saints in America.

With a PEF loan the Normingtons along with Maria's two-member brothers, Robert and William, began planning to depart for the United States.

One Sunday a sister bore her testimony in tongues. Branch President James G. Bleak understood the interpretation, but said nothing. Maria gave the interpretation. "I, the Lord am well pleased with the offering made by my servant Elder Bleak and notwithstanding he shall see the angel of death laying waste on his right hand and on his left, on his front and on his rearward, yet he and his family shall gather to Zion in safety, and not one of them shall fall by the way."

Maria helped fulfill this prophecy. When President Bleak became weak and ill and was left alongside the trail,



Maria and her brothers took her handcart, backtracked, found him and returned him to camp. Despite illness and hardship, the entire Bleak family survived with not one being lost.

On May 25, 1856, The Normingtons were among 856 passengers who departed Liverpool, England on board the ship Horizon which docked June 30 at Boston. They arrived at Iowa City via railroad on July 8 where they waited until July 26 for handcarts. On that day 576 Saints, 146 handcarts, seven wagons, thirty oxen and

fifty cows and some beef cattle departed under direction of Captain Edward Martin as the last of the five 1856 handcart companies.

Before the Company reached the first supply station at Florence Nebraska, eighteen-month-old Daniel died suddenly. Two weeks later Maria gave birth to a baby boy who died immediately after his birth. At Fort Laramie not even a fraction of the expected supplies were available to the Martin Company.

On October 19 the last crossing of the North Platt proved terrible. The stream ran high and carried mushy ice chunks. Shortly after the crossing a fierce storm began with high winds, hail and snow. Winter conditions enveloped the wet and weary travelers. Cholera soon afflicted the weakened travelers. Five-year-old Ephrin Robert Normington begged for a piece of bread. Maria placed a bite of biscuit on his lips. Before he could eat it, he died. Immediately, his sister, Hannah, now seven years old, snatched the biscuit from her dead brother's lips and ate it. Maria, realizing the extreme hunger of her three-living daughters, resolved to do all in her power to preserve their lives.

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#### (Continued From Previous Page)

Thomas Normington died a couple of days before October 28 when Joseph A. Young and Abel Garr arrived in camp with word that relief wagons were on their way. He was buried in a shallow grave with 16 others.

Maria persisted in pulling her handcart until her feet were frozen so painfully, she could not walk. She turned the handcart to her daughters as she crawled on her hands and knees until her hands were so frozen as to be useless. She then crawled on her knees and elbows. Those who saw the resulting open wounds were shocked and some cried. She carried scars on her knees and elbows to her grave.

In the face of adversity, Maria continued on. She gave her meager rations to her daughters as she ate dirt to satiate her own hunger.

At Martin's Cove Maria slipped into unconsciousness and remembered nothing of the last part of the journey in a rescue wagon that arrived in Salt Lake City November 30, 1856.

John Parker was among those furnishing a wagon and provisions, driven by his twenty-one-year-old son William, this wagon conveyed Maria and her daughters. Generous families took the survivors into their homes and nursed them back to health.

It was several months before Maria could walk. When the girls had regained their strength, they moved into John Parker's home on Second South between West Temple and Main Street. Maria and her daughters were then moved to the John Parker farm in what is now Taylorsville.

John's first wife, Alice, had died in England. His second wife, Ellen, a widow with nine children, had given birth to

two additional children, a son and daughter of John's. In November 1857 Maria became the plural wife of John Parker and bore him two children, a son Robert and a daughter, my great grandmother who was also named Maria.

In October 1862, John was called to the Dixie Cotton Mission to help develop the cotton industry. Maria stayed behind at the Taylorsville farm for another year before she moved herself and children to Virgin, Utah where she lived in a dugout.

Virgin had a presiding elder, but John Parker became the first bishop of the Virgin, Utah ward in which capacity he led out in organizing a United Order, a co-op cattle association, and a co-op store run by Maria and her sister wife, Ellen. Maria became a mainstay in the ward choir.

Above all, Maria remained a faithful Saint. She felt the gospel was the most glorious blessing of her life. Her response to difficulties and struggles was to be more faithful, resilient, and persistent. Her family loved to hear her pray; she seemed to see and talk to God face to face. She lived a life of doing good and living consistent with gospel principles. She also lived to see the completion of the St. George Temple and was able to have her family sealed. On March 19, 1881 Maria suffered a stroke at her home in Virgin and died at age sixty. She remained to the end a good and faithful wife and mother who taught her children by precept and example to be honest, industrious and true Latter-day Saints. Among her descendants are general authorities, mission presidents, stake presidents, bishops, stake patriarchs, and untold numbers of missionaries. And thus we see the fruits of living an honorable, faithful and devoted life.

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#### 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 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 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**

Max Anderson	Holladay
Kelly Dutton	Hurricane Valley
Thomas Hirschi	Hurricane Valley

#### **NEW LIFE MEMBERS**

Larry Jay Overson ..... Cedar City

#### NEW ANNUAL MEMBERS

Gregory Gordon Timpanogo	s
Charles Harper Mt Nebo	С
Don C Jepson Hurricane Valley	y
Marc P McLemore Cedar City	y
Ralph Scoresby Eagle Rock	K
Greg WidmerOgden Pionee	r

# NAME ..... CHAPTER

# NEW ANNUAL MEMBERS CONVERTED FROM FRIENDS & FAMILY Paul Haycock ...... Mesa Bernell Taylor ..... Maple Mountain Gary Turner ..... Lehi

#### **NEW FAMILY & FRIENDS MEMBERS**

Chuck Dews The Mountain Valley
Mel Hardman Holladay
Alexander Judkins At Large Member
Benjamin Judkins Washington DC Area
Thad Judkins Temple Quarry
Gabe JudkinsBoulder Dam Chapter
Sam Judkins At Large Member
Austin Judkins Washington DC Area
Briant Judkins Washington DC Area
Kevin LeavittBoulder Dam Chapter

#### NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

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Mona Hiskey..... Cedar City
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FOR CHAPTER RECOGNITION & EXCELLENCE AWARD FORMS & OTHER CHAPTER RESOURCES, CLICK HERE.

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



Fort Hill

Pocatello Temple

Four members of the Boulder Dam SUP Chapter attended the encampment in Rexburg, Idaho. For 21/2 days, we met great people, renewed old friendships, enjoyed great food, and learned about the history of the upper Snake River Valley of Idaho through various tours. For some participants, we had a special opportunity to visit and tour the Pocatello Temple. A special tour was arranged, and we spent about an hour walking through the temple (even the bridal room). We marveled at the beauty and spirit of the temple. We look forward to next years encampment in Salt Lake City.

## BOX ELDER CHAPTER - Brigham City, Utah



Arianna Haner, Sophia Lowery, and Addy Eisenach

We had our dinner meeting on September 8 at the Academy. The room was beautifully arranged and very inviting. The meal was well presented and delicious. We were honored to have the 2021 Days of '47 Royalty there to share some of their experiences in life and responsibilities as Royalty. We left the meeting with full stomachs and an appreciation for their accomplishments and our opportunities and experiences.

### **CEDAR CITY CHAPTER - Cedar City, Utah**



Breakfast



Graham Monument

We were pleased to see participation in our Chapter activities grow during the past month. We had an excellent turnout to our end of summer breakfast on August 21 (see photo). At the conclusion of the breakfast, Wayne Hinton, treated us to a review of the history of co-ops highlighting the central role played by ZCMI in consolidating retail activities among the early saints in Utah that continued its influence well into our day.

After Wayne's presentation, about 25 trekkers headed up the mountain under the leadership of Al Matheson to learn of the history of the "C" on Cedar Mountain and then press on to view the wildflowers, the Maurice Graham monument on Kanarra Mountain (see photo), Potato Hollow falls, Zion National Park West Rim Overlook, Smith Mesa, the SAM missile test site, the sheep bridge over the Virgin River, petroglyphs, an old pioneer cemetery and the sheep co-op monument outside of Hurricane, UT.

The Chapter's monument committee has also been busy visiting and documenting the history and condition of the 96 monuments in Iron County. Upcoming is another trek and our Bread and Milk scholarship fund raising dinner.

## **COTTON MISSION CHAPTER - St George, Utah**

The Cotton Mission Chapter enjoyed an evening at the Rod Orton Lodge in Pine Valley September 21. We enjoyed a delightful Chik-fil-a meal followed by speaker Gilbert Jennings, a well-known businessman in St. George. Jennings and his wife Leslie served as directors of the Kirtland, Ohio visitors center and shared some of their wonderful experiences. Also, as requested, Gilbert brought a number of relics, historical artifacts, and an old rifle that figured in the demise of the last grizzly bear on Pine Valley Mountain. He related how "Old Crackfoot" tormented the ranchers and feasted on their cattle for 30 years, avoiding capture repeatedly. In a final encounter with hunter and Pine Valley Ranger, Mitt Moody, it took a number of bullets as well as grim determination to finally bring Old Crack-foot's rampage to an end.

# HURRICANE CHAPTER - Hurricane, Utah



Loren Webb

Our September dinner was Sept 9. Our guest speaker was Kathy Covington Tobler who spoke to us about her grandfather, Lorin Covington, a pioneer artist who lived in Hurricane.

Our August speaker was Lorin Webb. He is a native of St. George and grew up working on his father's dairy farm. He spoke to us about three historical Washington County events. The first was the development and building of the Hurricane Canal, the second the breaking of the Quail Creek Dam and consequent flooding of the area, and third the building of the Tunnel in Zion National Park in 1930. It was well presented, and although our numbers were few, those who were there were treated to an enjoyable, educational, evening.

Upcoming Events: Peach Days will be held August 30 through September 4. We will have two floats in the parade. One float will carry the old Hurricane Bell, and the other will carry members of the SUP Hurricane Valley Chapter. Volunteers will tell the history of the bell and community to interested visitors during the event.

# JORDAN RIVER TEMPLE CHAPTER - South Jordan, Utah

In September we held our annual end of summer picnic at the Gale Center in South Jordan. The 40 individuals who attended had a wonderful time associating with their fellow Chapter associates plus a marvelous dinner – Sloppy Joes. Thank you to all who helped. Oh, those Sloppy Joe's where delicious. And the fresh fresh corn on the cob was to dream for. And the salads and those chocolaty desserts were amazing. Thank you, thank you. A special thanks to our own Colleen Schmidt for her happy and fun program. Colleen's presentation was about Cowboys and Farmers. She had stories about each group. Such as "The quickest way to double your money is to fold it in two and put it back in your pocket." True farmer wisdom. And she even delighted us with some delightful Cowboy poetry. We also had five guests join with us on this evening.

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



Bryan Cardon

Bryan Cardon, our guest speaker, discussed his long ago family that left the Catholic Church and joined a group called the Waldensians. The Waldensians were a Christian sect founded by a man named Peter Waldo from France. The Cardon family, overseen by Brother Cardon's third great grandfather, were unhappy with the Catholic Church's teachings and when they heard the message from the Waldensians they left the Catholic Church and joined that group. As the Waldensians grew in numbers they were severely harassed by the officials of the Catholic Church even to the point where members of the group were physically injured. Later when three other missionaries came to Piedmont, Italy, one of which was Lorenzo Snow, and gave their Restored Gospel message, the father's heart was full of joy and all the family were baptized. The daughter of Brother Cordon's third great grandfather, Marie Madelyn Cardon, had had a vision some years before that those three missionaries would come to Piedmont with their message. Later in 1856 the Cardon family made their way from Piedmont, Italy to Liverpool, England, where they boarded a ship to America and finally to Saint Louis where they obtained wagons for their long trip to the Valley. Their travel to Utah was filled with the usual sickness and difficulties but none died as many others in their Company did. Since the time of their trek to Utah to the present time the family has grown in great numbers and they remain solid and strong in the Gospel. Many of our Chapter members are familiar the Cardon name and can vouch for their faithfulness in the Gospel and contributions to the Church.

# PORTER ROCKWELL CHAPTER - Salt Lake City South, Utah



John W. Welch



Dr. Janiece Johnson

The Porter Rockwell Chapter began and ended Summer with two great presenters. Our June meeting was held out doors and in person, and featured Professor John W. Welch of the BYU Religion Department. Although widely known as the "discoverer" of chiasmus in the Book of Mormon, he is also known for his work in founding the "Foundation for Ancient Research and Mormon Studies (FARMS)", which has more recently been morphed into "Book of Mormon Central." He told how the concept for "Book of Mormon Central" evolved, both as an on-line resource and as a significant research organization involving many employees and volunteers.

Our September Zoom meeting featured Dr. Janiece Johnson, a professor at BYU and historian. Her subject that evening was "Becoming a People of the Books," a reference to how many people in various religious settings seem to internalize their sacred books, such as the Koran, the Torah, the Bible, and in the case of members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the Book of Mormon. She drew examples from several early Church members that show how in their speech, formal writings and personal letters and journals, and in their actual behavior, they came to use "Book of Mormon language" in these activities. Do you know of anyone today who appears to exhibit this practice?

### **PORTNEUF CHAPTER - Pocatello, Idaho**



Award

On August 23, 2021 the Portneuf Pioneers chapter was recognized as one of the recipients of the Esto Perpetua Award for 2021, by the Idaho State Historical Society. Kenyon Hart, Chapter President 2021, received the award on behalf of the Portneuf Pioneers, Pocatello Chapter of the Sons of Utah Pioneers. In the photo the award is being presented to Jim Johnston, Rick Phillips, Spencer Stucki and Kenyon Hart by Idaho Governor Little and his wife.

The Portneuf Pioneers performed an early morning service to visit Markers and Sites to trim grass and weeds and make assessment of possible future projects. We performed a Marker Maintenance Project at the Red Rock Pass and Bear River Massacre Site.

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



Larry Lunt

Val Parrish, President of the Salt Lake Pioneer Chapter invites you to the October luncheon meeting. Larry V. Lunt, leader in Utah business, military, civic and religious service, will be our guest speaker Wednesday, October 13, 2021. Please click <u>HERE</u> to sign in to this meeting via Zoom.

Larry V. Lunt has spent a successful career in business, military, civic, and religious service. After 36 years in the military, Larry retired as a brigadier general in 2003. At the time of his retirement, General Lunt was serving as the commander of the Utah Air National Guard and led 1,500 men and women of the Utah Air National Guard in response to the terrorist attacks of 9/11. His business career includes the founding of a real estate development and management business with more than 2,000 units across properties from Florida to Wyoming. His civic service includes former chairman of the Utah Republican Party, and served in the Utah State Legislature. He is the former Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Southern Utah University and he served as the Vice President of the Western Region for the Boy Scouts of America. He received a BS in Political Science and a Juris Doctorate in Law from the University of Utah. Larry has spent his adult life in many religious capacities for his church including president of the Kentucky Louisville Mission and Louisville Kentucky Temple.

# **TIMPANOGOS CHAPTER - American Fork, Utah**



Marker



Sam White Headstone



Richard, Elder Gong, Mark

The Timpanogos Chapter recently completed SUP Monument # 276. It is located at 115 South 100 East in Pleasant Grove, UT. The Monument is titled "Soft-Rock Building in Pleasant Grove, Utah." All the rock used in the monument is called Soft-Rock and is also called Tufa. Soft-Rock is limestone deposits in vegetation around water. There were two quarries in the foothills near Pleasant Grove that supplied the building stones for over 100 buildings between 1865 and 1900. In 2021 only 19 historic building remain in which the natural rock is exposed. Other Soft-Rock buildings have been hidden under stucco.

Timpanogos Chapter also completed a service project to install a military plaque near the grave of Samuel White in Pleasant Grove, Utah, who had served in the Mormon Battalion. The keynote speaker at the 2018 SuperDuper day event was Elder Gerrit Gong who told how Sister Gong's ancestors entered the Salt Lake Valley and were welcomed with fresh peaches. After weeks on the trail the peaches were an overwhelming gift of kindness.

In 2020 Elder Gong and Sister Gong visited Mark Bezzant's peach orchard to personally deliver a few peaches to elderly widows and others in need. On August 28, 2021, Elder and Sister Gong and a granddaughter again helped harvest peaches and delivered them to over 30 different families as well as to missionaries in the MTC and residents in an assist-living center. This small act of kindness in the pioneer past has led to a new tradition of ministering that is a blessing today to those who give as well as those who receive.



**Answer to Larry Gibson's Question:** Dodrans is a Latin contraction of de-quadrans which means "a whole unit less a quarter" (de means "from"; quadrans means "quarter"). Dodransbicentential then means 200 years (bicentennial) minus 25 years (dodrans) which equals 175 years or 175th anniversary.