

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



This past year has been an amazing ride for me as president of the Sons of Utah Pioneers. Two years ago when I was elected as president elect I had no idea how this would play out. Covid-19 has caused each of us to re-write aspects of our lives, how we act, operate and feel. The Sons of Utah Pioneers is no different. We needed to be creative in our chapter meetings, treks and national activities. After a year of canceled meetings, an encampment and symposium, along with last year's 24th of July activities, I am happy to let you all know

that for the most part life in the SUP has gotten back to normal. Chapters are meeting in person, having dinners and taking treks. The national office and library are open and conducting normal business. On a national level this year we were able to hold an in person symposium, the SUPer-DUPer Day, pull hand carts in the 24th of July parade and are planning on a great encampment in Rexburg later this month. Covid is still running strong, please be wise and safe. You all know what to do to protect yourselves.

Yesterday my wife Mardee and I took a little drive to Paris Idaho and visited the Paris Tabernacle. This is a fascinating building with a rich pioneer history that shows the faith of the early settlers in the Bear Lake area. If you are looking for a great afternoon trek this fall take a drive to Paris, look at the fall leaves along the way and enjoy a delicious raspberry shake. Check the Paris Tabernacle web site to find their fall tour schedule.

I am excited about the upcoming encampment September 16-18, 2021 in beautiful Rexburg Idaho. There are some great treks and activities planned along with dinners that bring us closer together as friends and as an association. We will be announcing the results of the president elect election at the Saturday luncheon; you won't want to miss that. Please get registered and plan on attending. We need each other to succeed.

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VAGE

MOST RECENT NEWS OF YOUR LOCAL CHAPTER

Being the president of the National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers for the past year has been a great honor and one of the highlights of my life. I have associated with many of you through chapter meetings and treks, training events, the symposium and the week's activities for the 24th of July along with the upcoming encampment. I have been able to do things I could never have done if was not for the SUP, such as sitting next to President Dallin H. Oaks and conducting the devotional at the Super/Duper Day. I have gained strength and a greater understanding of the pioneers and the heritage that they left us from each one of you. You are the backbone and strength of the SUP, never forget that. If I were to say the one thing I would like to leave with the SUP as a message it would be to write your history and testimony for your family to have and cherish for generations to come. Just as you gain strength from the pioneers your family can gain strength from you and your testimony.

Larry Gibson will be the next president of the SUP and assume responsibilities at the encampment in Rexburg. Larry is a great man with a great love of the pioneers and a burning testimony of the gospel. He has a great vision of the future of the SUP and we are lucky to have him. I look forward to continuing to serve each of you and the Sons of Utah Pioneers as a past president for as long as I am able. I hope that is a very long time. Thank you for the opportunities you have given me and the brotherhood we share. Be pioneer strong and I will see you on the trail.

Brad Clayton 2021 National President





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



INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI

On July 20, 1831, the Lord told the Saints: "Behold, the place which is now called Independence is the center place; and a spot for the temple is lying westward, upon a lot which is not far from the courthouse." On August 3, 1831; several months before the Church obtained ownership, John Whitmer recorded: "Sidney dedicated Rigdon ground where the city is to stand, and Joseph Smith Jr. laid a stone at the northeast corner of the contemplated



The Temple boundary as outlined by the entire membership of the "Church of Christ (Temple Lot)"

temple in the name of the Lord Jesus of Nazareth."

After the martyrdom of the Prophet Joseph Smith, some Saints who didn't move west under Brigham Young and became disaffected with the main body of the Saints. Various denominations were created, including a new "Church of Christ" established in central Illinois. In 1858, John E. Page, who had been excommunicated over a decade earlier, but still acting in his former office of an Apostle, ordained Granville Hedrick and several others to be apostles in the denomination and later ordained Hedrick to the first presidency of that church. Less than two months later Hecrick received revelation to begin gathering back to Zion in Missouri, and in 1865 some of Hedrick's followers returned to the New Jerusalem. From 1867 through 1874 they began purchasing the property now considered the Temple Lot, about 2.5 acres of the original 63.27 acres purchased by the Church.

Later, the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints also relocated to Independence and in ---- tried to gain possession of the site, but lost their case. They eventually proceeded to build a temple decades later, but on a neighboring site to the north.

1929 Hedrick's In followers decided excavate to build a temple on the, laborers turned up the stones placed by the Prophet Joseph Smith marking the Temple corners, but progress moved slow and finally finshed excavating in 1934. Then as the Great Depression hit the nation,

they were unable to obtain funds to continue construction and petitioned the City for money necessary to back-fill the site to its previous state. The Church of Christ (Temple Lot) believe they are called as physical and spiritual custodians to the temple lot, a duty they have tenaciously fulfilled up to this point, and are awaiting further revelation.

Their chapel is the third to be built on the block, the first two both destroyed by arson. Several members of their faith, while suffering from delusions and conspiracies, claimed that God had told them to "cleanse the church site." They barricaded themselves within the building and set it on fire, exiting the building while performing a dance with their bodies painted "Native American style." The fire crew did manage to save the original Temple cornerstones, historical documents and other materials from the building. Visitors are welcome to tour the site freely but please remember this is private property and permission would be appreciated for picnics or other uses. The original corner stones are still on display inside their building.

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 DREAM OF BENJAMIN BENSON

By Philip Wayne Ercanbrack: Third great grand-son of Benjamin Benson

My name is Benjamin Benson, I was born in 1773 in Maple, Rensselaer, New York. I was a farmer most of my life and also learned the trade of Millwright to help support our family of 12 children with my wife, Keziah Messenger.

In the year of 1795, when I was 22 years old and living in the Town of Pompey, County of Onondaga, New York, I, being a very curious man, often wondered where all the Indians or native Americans originated. I made it a matter of prayer. I experienced a vision of an angel that

appeared to me in a dream. He showed me an ancient record that was deposited in the earth and said it was a record of a people that came from Jerusalem. They were the forefathers of the Indians and that the record would be brought to light in a few short years. Then from a distance the angel then showed me the man who had been chosen to bring forth the record and said about him, "He is not yet born."

We moved our family more than 1,000 miles from Allegany County, New York to Clinton County, Indiana by floating the Allegany and Ohio Rivers. I engaged in clearing timbered land, farmed, built saw and grist mills, encountered Indian raids and endured all the struggles of frontier life. In 1832, while living in Indiana, missionaries from the restored Church of Jesus Christ converted our whole family to the Church.

It all started when our daughter, Polly Benson, had a dream that she was doing the family washing out by our big shade tree near our home. In the dream she saw two men walking towards her with little satchels. She said that she heard a voice that told her, "Whatever those men are bringing you, accept it for it is true."

So vivid was the dream that sometime later when she was actually doing the family wash, she saw two Elders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints approaching and recognized them as the two men in her dream. She quickly invited them into the family home. My wife and I were happy to welcome them and we were anxious to hear their message about the restored gospel, Joseph Smith, and the coming forth of the Book of Mormon.



We readily accepted their teachings and soon joined the faith. I had been prepared to hear and accept the gospel truths years earlier. Following our conversion we committed to travel 800 miles by ox team to Jackson County, Missouri to be with the rest of the saints. We experienced all the persecutions and atrocities committed upon the members of the Church at the merciless hands of our persecutors.

Years later, in 1837 when I was 64 years old, while in Far West, Missouri, I had a private

conversation with the Prophet Joseph Smith and related the whole experience to him of my dream many years earlier. He was very interested. He asked me to record everything that I had seen in the dream in detail and give him a copy, which I did a short time thereafter.

Eventually we finally were driven from Missouri, crossed the Mississippi River and settled in Warsaw, Illinois. I was 65 years old and now I had to start all over again. But my family and I had a close relationship with Joseph Smith and we supported him fully. I helped build the City of Nauvoo and worked on the Temple there. I also served on the Nauvoo High Council. Great was my sorrow at the martyrdom of the Prophet Joseph Smith and his brother, Hyrum in 1844.

Our family moved west with the saints in 1846 sorrowfully leaving the city we had helped to build. The journey was very hard on me. I was not young anymore and the rigors of the journey overcame me.

It is my testimony that the Lord lives and that Joseph Smith is his prophet. How privileged I am to have known Brother Joseph and to have been baptized in the restored Church of Jesus Christ.

At the age of 73, Benjamin Benson passed away near Winter Quarters. His wife and other family members continued on West and eventually reached the Salt Lake Valley in 1852. They first settled in Springville then later helped initiate the settlement of Fayette, Utah and worked on the Manti Temple. Brother Benson was true to the faith! A stalwart pioneer!

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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 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!

NAMECHAPTER	NAME
CHAPTER ETERNAL MEMBERS	NEW FAMILY & FRIENDS MEMBERS
Vern Ashcroft Temple Fork	Marlin Palmer
Richard BentleyCotton Mission	Howard Lynn Howard Brigham Young
L Kerry Jones Cedar City	Douglas LemonTemple Fork
Paul Quist At Large Member	Gardner Gee
J Paul Riley Temple Fork	Phillip H Schow Eagle Rock
NEW ANNUAL MEMBERS	NEW ANNUAL MEMBERS
CONVERTED FROM FRIENDS & FAMILY	John Hartvigsen
Tyler Morgan Cedar City	Doug R LangSanpete County
Brett Walker Pioneer Heritage-Canyon Rim	Steven McCollough At Large Member
	Mark Thurston Morgan Pioneer

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

SEPTEMBER 2021

BOX ELDER CHAPTER - Brigham City, Utah



Laird and Blithe Small

On August 11, we held our Sons of Utah Pioneers dinner at the Brigham City North Stake Center. Food was provided by the Board members. Jack Small introduced the program and it was his son, Laird Small and his wife Blithe. They have been married for 25 years and are living in Oakley, Utah. They are working and teaching in Kamus. They

have been singing together since before they were married and really make good music together. He plays the guitar, she plays the flute and they sing. Some of the songs, he wrote. Food was plentiful and nearly all was consumed. It was a relaxing, and enjoyable evening.

CEDAR CITY CHAPTER - Cedar City, Utah



Waldo Galan

Our annual Pioneer Day commemoration was held at the historic Rock Church in Cedar City on, Saturday, July 24th. Highlights of the meeting included the introduction of our four scholarship award recipients and our 4th grade essay contest winners, the presentation of this year's Modern Pioneer Awards to Wayne K. Hinton and Richard A. Dotson.

Our speaker was Waldo D. Galan who told the harrowing tale of his family's struggle to escape from Cuba and find freedom in the United States. His family's story is a testament to the value of liberty and the freedom to live one's life with the agency

God intended for all His children. Brother Galan has worked all over the world with Ford Motor Company and has held many leadership positions in the church. He is currently a sealer in the Cedar City Temple.

On July 26th at 12:00pm we were treated to a tour of the Grandin printing shop in Palmyra, New York, where the original 5000 copies of the Book of Mormon were printed and published.

Upcoming are our Fall breakfast, a presentation by Wayne Hinton on the history of ZCMI, a trek up Cedar Mountain, and a potluck luncheon.

COTTON MISSION CHAPTER - St George, Utah



Jon Green

Cotton Mission Chapter member Jon Green spoke at our August 17 dinner meeting. His topic was "Dixie Heroes Who Changed My Life."

"Even though I was born in L.A. in 1940, I claim St. George as my home town," Jon said, "because we moved here in 1943 where I grew up among the salt-of-the-earth descendants of the pioneers who eked out a meager living in this unforgiving desert."

Jon went on to say, "Even though my mother felt like an 'outsider' most of her life--we were some of the first nonpioneer types who moved here--I never felt anything but deep gratitude for the people I grew up amongst."

After leaving on a mission to Germany in 1960, and graduating with a B.A. and M.A. at BYU in 1968, Jon went east for a PhD in comparative arts at Syracuse University, where he and Karen had their first child, Erin. They returned to Provo to accept a position in BYU's Department of Humanities, Classics and Comparative Literature, and had nine additional children. They enjoyed 35 years of teaching what Jon described as "the best and brightest the Church has to offer."

Following that they served three full-time missions in Berlin, Germany, Vienna, Austria and South Carolina.

SEPTEMBER 2021

HURRICANE CHAPTER - Hurricane, Utah



Loren Webb

The Hurrcane Valley chapter met at the American Legion Post 100's building for a pot-luck dinner. Our speaker for the evening was Loren 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.

September Events: Peach Days and Peach Week. This year there will be activities and concerts beginning August 30 thru September 4. At 9 am on the 4th,we will have two floats in the parade. One will carry the old Hurricane Bell, and the other will carry members of the SUP Hurricane Valley Chapter.

Thursday September 9 will be our regular Pot-Luck Dinner at the American Legion Hall. Our guest speaker will be Kathy Covington Tobler who will speak to us about her grandfather Lorin Covington, a pioneer artist who lived in Hurricane.

LEHI CHAPTER - Lehi, Utah



Alan & Linda Turner



Church Meeting In Zimbabwe

On Monday, August 9, 2021, the Lehi Chapter of the Sons of Utah Pioneers (SUP) greeted guest Alan D. Turner to our first meeting in a year and a half, due to the Covid 19 virus. Alan is a member of the Morgan, Utah SUP Chapter.

The course of his presentation was centered on a mission he served with his wife, Linda, to the Harare Zimbabwe Mission (over LDS Charities), October 2007 - March 2009; including overseeing the humanitarian efforts in Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi, Africa. The people of this area were part of the 95% unemployed citizens. Those employed made a whopping \$5.00 a month and would pay \$35.00 for white shirts (under a 7% inflation rate-per-minute. It would cost \$1 to ride a combie (rusty, beat-up van) - but many citizens walked. Fifteen to twenty passengers would often be seen coming out the windows of a combie; but... one would also see more than ten passengers in a single car. A two-hour trip by car was a challenge, as they usually encountered eight to ten roadblocks each way.

Alan and Linda would often take "care packages" to the missionaries... consisting of milk, bread, two cans of tuna, and two rolls. (Rolls were \$15 each, when purchased.) When shopping for food, they learned to immediately purchase the things they needed. There was never a guarantee these items would be on the shelf the next day – or – when they would be available again!

Though an LDS charity symbol (sticker) was placed on missionaries' cars, which provided safe travel for them, individuals with an AK 47 often shot at anyone running the roadblocks (usually because there was no "sticker"). As with all missionaries, Alan and Linda loved the people and certainly missed them when they bid their farewells.

Linda has since passed away. Alan is currently keeping his life filled with the things he enjoys: family, SUP, Morgan Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, Ogden Temple Ordinance Worker, Ogden Inner City Missionary (Eccles Park Ward) and, of course, the Church of Jesus Christ. Thank you, Alan, for your amazing story of Faith, Love, Hope and Charity!

______SEPTEMBER 2021

MAPLE MOUNTAIN CHAPTER - Mapleton / Spanish Fork, Utah



Moon Lake Trek

Our Maple Mountain Chapter of the Sons of Utah Pioneers conducted a summer trek by a motor vehicle caravan, Saturday, June 26, to the Moon Lake campground at the at the foot of the beautiful Uintah Mountains north of Duchesne. It was led by Lee Nelson, our Chapter Trek Master. We wound our way to the lake where we were able to find a camp site that fit our numbers. There we ate our lunch and listened to Lee as he spoke to us about the early Spanish history of the area. He focused on the Spanish soldiers' capturing the local American Indians who were made to work the mines that produced

the gold that was sent back to Spain. Spain then became the richest of European Countries at the time. This information Lee had earlier researched and is covered in his tenth Storm Testament volume, Storm Gold.

In our journey home we connected again with Highway 40 at Duchesne, went past Starvation and Strawberry reservoirs and the beautiful mountains to Heber, then down Provo Canyon, and finally back to Mapleton. It was a wonderful trek, covering about 250 miles, thanks to Lee, his research and storytelling skills.

MORGAN CHAPTER - Morgan, Utah



Dave Neumann



The Christus

The August monthly meeting had an informative presentation by Dave Neuman on the origins of the 13 foot, 8000 lb. Christus statue and how this particular one came to be part of the The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints's new official logo.

Bertel Thorvaldsen, born in 1770 to a peasant mother and a wood carving father was accepted, at the age 11, into the royal Danish Academy of Art. He later moved to Rome Italy where he worked for nearly four decades. In 1819 he returned to Denmark having been commissioned to sculpt statues of Christ and each of the twelve apostles for the renovation of the Church of Our Lady. After creating multiple sketches and clay models, the final design was finished in 1821. Plaster copies would be used in the 1829 Church inauguration while artisans under his direction would finish the final marble copies at the quarries in Carrara Italy. The position of the Saviors hands were unique to his statue as was the expression on the Savior's face. It was said of Thorvaldsen's Christus "You don't see the pain, you don't see the Crucifixion, you don't see the blood or the crown of thorns. Of course you see the wounds in his hands and feet. You see him standing there, that death is overcome and he is welcoming." The statue was one of

the first to ever be mass produced and used by many churches and individuals. In 1950, Elder Stephen L Richards, on assignment from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints visited Copenhagen and purchased a marble replica of Thorvaldsen's statue, shipping it to Salt Lake City. After remaining in storage for some time it finally found a home in the North Visitors Center at Temple Square. Since its addition, the attendance at Temple Square has dramatically increased.

In 2008, at General Conference, President Monson announced the construction of a temple in Rome Italy. The Church immediately initiated the process to once again replicate Thorvaldsen's Christus but this time included replicas of all twelve of his Apostle statues. Church artisans gained access to Copenhagen's Church of Our Lady after hours to do a complete digital mapping of each statue. Final marble creation and finishing of the 13 statues took place at the base of the Carrara Quarry and was performed by local artisans and craftsmen. The statues are now displayed in the Rome Temple Visitor's Center. A lighter, fiberglass, transportable version was used at the 1964 Seattle World's Fair and at many recent Temple open houses.

OGDEN PIONEER CHAPTER - Ogden, Utah



Alan Turner SUP Area VP



Our first chapter meeting back at the Comfort Suites Inn & Conference Center was held on 9 August 2021. We had approximately 50 chapter members and guests in attendance. It was nice to be "home" in our regular place and at our regular time.

The program was presented by our SUP Area Vice President, Alan Turner. Alan and his late wife, Linda, had served a Humanitarian Mission for LDS Charities in Zimbabwe, Africa, as the area coordinators. He presented several facts and stories about the condition of the Church in Zimbabwe, as well as, the conditions existing in this nation, e.g. exorbitant rate of inflation, availability

(lack) of food, country leadership, 95% unemployment rate, frequent and lengthy power outages, etc.

In spite of the abject poverty of most of the people, they are a happy people. The growth of the Church has increased significantly since the opening of the country to missionary work. They now have six stakes with many wards and branches. Once converted to the gospel they are a devout people, making many sacrifices to attend church meetings and fulfill their callings. The members of the Church in these African nations are just as much Pioneers in their countries as our ancestors were here in our Country.

SALT LAKE CITY CHAPTER - Salt Lake City, Utah



Katherine Kitterman

The Salt Lake City Chapter enjoyed guest speaker Katherine Kitterman August 12, 2021. Katherine is the historical director for Better Days, a nonprofit dedicated to sharing Utah women's history through educational curriculum, public art, and events. Katherine is the co-author of two recent books: Champions of Change: 25 Women Who Made History and Thinking Women: A Timeline of Suffrage in Utah. She previously worked as a researcher on the Saints project at the LDS Church History Library, and developed public programming in Washington D.C. at Woodrow Wilson

House, the Smithsonian Institution, and the Holocaust Museum. Katherine just earned her PhD from American University, where her dissertation analyzed Utah women's suffrage activism and highlighted the connection between suffragists in West and East.

Katherine co authored "The Voice of Freedom from that Far Off Western Shore" in the Pioneer Magazine 2020, Volume 67 Number 1, The 150th Anniversary of Utah Woman Suffrage. Katherine was also one of the featured speakers at the SUP National Symposium on Saturday, April 24, 2021.

SALT LAKE PIONEER CHAPTER - Downtown Salt Lake City, Utah



Kirkham Motorsports

The Salt Lake Pioneer Chapter trekked to Kirkham Motorsports in Provo on August 20. Kirkham Motorsports builds high quality aluminum replicas of the Shelby Cobra. The body and chassis are hand-built at a facility in Poland and are then shipped to the Kirkham Motorsports shop in Utah where the cars are filed, sanded, brushed or polished, and then assembled to make a rolling chassis. This was a great opportunity to see one of the premier auto builders in the world.

SEPTEMBER 8 LUNCHEON: Doug Wilks, executive editor of the Deseret News, will be our guest speaker Wednesday, September 8, 2021. Doug Wilks was named executive editor of the Deseret News earlier this year, increasing the strength and rigor of the news report and has been instrumental in extending the reach of the Deseret News to millions of readers. Prior to his appointment, he worked as editor of the Deseret News and managing editor of

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Doug Wilks

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the News Division, leading a multi-platform newsroom for the Deseret News and KSL TV and Radio, and their digital platforms. Wilks has worked in the news industry for more than 35 years. Prior to joining the Deseret News and KSL, he worked in various editing and leadership capacities in the team-structured newsroom of The Press Democrat in Santa Rosa, California,

then part of the New York Times Regional Media Group. He also worked as city editor for the Marin Independent Journal, formerly with Gannett, and managing editor and city editor of the Napa Valley Register, then a Scripps League Newspapers publication. He is married to Christiana Wilks. They have three children and eight grandchildren. He currently serves the Church as a stake president in downtown Salt Lake City.

TIMPANOGOS CHAPTER - American Fork, Utah



Frank Mills

On Thursday, August 19, 2021, the Timpanogos Chapter held their monthly Chapter Dinner Meeting at the American Fork Senior Citizen's Center. Chapter President Frank Mills was the evening speaker. His topic was on "Lost History Found." As a young man, and in his early married life, President Mills felt genealogy and family history were more to be done by older folks. His life was filled with the everyday efforts of doing what a young married man would do to provide for the immediate needs of a wife and family. As the family grew, he and his wife Annette realized they needed to remodel the home in which they were living. Frank spent every spare minute doing the work. He was using a crowbar to rip plaster off a ceiling when something fell from the rafters and hit him on the head. It was an old "Book of Remembrance" wrapped in plastic. As "old people worry" about such things, Frank threw it into a box and didn't think much more about it. The "Book of Remembrance" was forgotten

Thirty plus years later, Frank decided to look at it and found life sketches of thirty-five people dating from as early as 1813 to as

late as 1913. The sketches were written per an assignment given by the Young Women's President of the Church to interview Saints who had joined the Church or were living in Nauvoo or who were coming out West. One of the first names Frank noticed was George Careless, who had written an opera for entertainment for the other passengers while on the ship he was sailing on to America. George also led the Tabernacle Choir and wrote many hymns when in Salt Lake City.

Being impressed with the important people in the book, Frank sent one sketch of a girl with the last name of Hinckley to President Hinckley. Soon after, he received a call from the Church Historical Department requesting to see the book. President Mills donated the "Book" to the Church. The clear message President Mills gave to the Chapter was to seek and find the hidden treasures of history which lay waiting to be told. Bring the stories and lives of our ancestors to all, including our future generations, as soon as possible. Frank finished by bearing his testimony that what may seem like coincidences are more in line with the guidance of the Lord and the Spirit.