

Trail Marker

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PIONEERING
YESTERDAY, TODAY &
TOMORROW
ISSUE 225

5 NUMBER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



When I was a young man serving a mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the Southern Far East Mission (headquartered in Hong Kong, and consisting of three zones - Hong Kong, Taiwan [Republic of China], and all of the Philippine Islands - I was fortunate enough to immerse myself in the Chinese culture and language. I served in Taiwan, Hong Kong, and eventually in Singapore where I learned Mandarin Chinese. In addition to speaking the Chinese language, it was, also, important to our success to know about Chinese culture and history to establish a base of trust and familiarity with the people.

Early in my experience, I read a Chinese proverb attributed to the ancient Chinese philosopher, Lao Tzu, "A journey of 1,000 miles begins with a single step." [千里之行，始於足下]. More accurately it is interpreted as "... it begins where you stand (or under your feet)." The proverb is often interpreted to mean that no matter how big the goal, it can be achieved by taking the first step. It emphasizes the importance of taking action gradually and effortlessly, rather than rushing or forcing things to happen. The proverb also highlights the importance of taking things one at a time when any journey, professional or personal, seems too tedious or daunting.

I have reflected on this proverb many times in my life. It has served me well! In thinking how this applies to my pioneer ancestors, I have come to realize that if their "first step" was never taken to leave England or Ireland, they never would have arrived in America. Every morning when they arose, if they never took that first step, they never would have reached Nauvoo. If they had never taken that first step to come to the mountains of the West, they wouldn't have joined with the Saints. If they had not taken those first steps each day - where would I be today?

If I hadn't taken those first steps each morning of my life to face the challenges of the day -- day after day -- would I have ever accomplished anything worthwhile in my life? There are times when taking that first step in whatever journey we are currently on is difficult, but unless that first step is taken, we will never complete that journey.

May we all follow the example of those dedicated, faithful, determined, loyal, courageous, and hard-working pioneers - get up in the morning and take that first step on the journey for that day. Just keep putting one foot in front of the other.

L. Nate Pierce | 2024 National President

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NATIONAL HISTORICAL SYMPOSIUM



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Statehood – 1847-1896”
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*The Mormon Battalion Association led the
Flag Ceremony*



Calendar of Events

NOMINATIONS WANTED

THERE ARE GREAT LEADERS WITHIN THE SUP.
IF YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO WOULD MAKE A GREAT NATIONAL PRESIDENT,
PLEASE NOMINATE THEM BY CLICKING [HERE!](#)



MONDAY
22
JULY

SUPER DUPER DAY

THIS IS THE PLACE HERITAGE PARK | 10AM - 5PM
DISCOUNT TICKETS FOR SUP & DUP MEMBERS
DEVOTIONAL BY EMILY BELLE FREEMAN, GENERAL YOUNG WOMEN'S PRESIDENT



WEDNESDAY
24
JULY

DAYS OF '47 SUNRISE SERVICE

IN THE TABERNACLE AT 7AM • KEYNOTE SPEAKER: TO BE ANNOUNCED



WEDNESDAY
24
JULY

DAYS OF '47 PARADE

MAKE A LASTING MEMORY WITH YOUR FAMILY & COME PULL HANDCARTS
IN THE DOWNTOWN SALT LAKE CITY PARADE • PULL STARTS AT 9AM



SEPT 24
THROUGH
OCT 3

CHURCH HISTORY TREK

HISTORIC PROPERTIES RETURN TOUR
MISSOURI | ILLINOIS | OHIO
[CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS](#)





PIONEER STORIES

INCREDIBLE EXPERIENCES IN THE LIFE OF ORSON HYDE

Immediately after his baptism in October of 1831, Orson Hyde was called on the first of thirteen missions. After his return to Kirtland, Orson taught various subjects in the School of the Prophets including history, geology, geography, science, and government. He later claimed, "I have once memorized the Bible [in English and Hebrew], and when any one quoted one verse, I could quote the next." Orson was also called as a clerk for the First Presidency where he recorded many of the Kirtland revelations, council minutes, among other things.



On a mission to the Eastern States to recruit for Zion's Camp he would often go without meals, once walking an entire day without eating. Upon exhaustion an angel surrounded in glory appeared and handed him some peculiar unearthly fruit of which was more delicious than anything he had ever tasted. The angel also told him the blessings that awaited him and told him that he would have the gift of prophecy.

Orson accompanied the Prophet and others on Zion's Camp during the summer of 1834 and was later sent with Parley P. Pratt to visit Missouri Governor Daniel Dunklin to try and reinstate the Saints to their rightful lands in Jackson County. This was Orson's second attempt with no avail.

In 1835 Orson was ordained an Apostle. After the Kirtland Temple was dedicated, Elder Hyde served a mission to Canada where he published a tract called "A Prophetic Warning," the first missionary tract printed in the Church.

As apostasy coursed through Kirtland, Orson agreed to testify against Joseph Smith. But the next day, Orson sought out Joseph to apologize and asked to accompany the Twelve to England and was set apart for that mission.

Returning home with much success, he found Missouri persecutions and apostasy had peaked. Orson became sympathetic with his former Quorum President, Thomas B. Marsh's, recent excommunication. Orson signed an affidavit with many enemies against the Prophet, the result of which caused Joseph, Hyrum and several others to be thrown in jail and the Saints exiled from Missouri. Orson was excommunicated and spent some time out of the Church. But, with godly sorrow and the help of his former Quorum members, he was restored to his former position as an Apostle.

After relocating his family to Nauvoo, Orson wrote that "the vision of the Lord, like clouds of light, burst into my

view. . . . The cities of London, Amsterdam, Constantinople and Jerusalem, all appeared in succession before me." The Spirit told Orson that these cities would be the field of his labors. Within six weeks of this vision, he left Nauvoo with fellow Apostle John E. Page. Page soon abandoned him and Orson continued alone, barely having the funds to travel day by day. While in Philadelphia, a stranger gave him a bag of gold. Orson made his way through the cities of London, England; Rotterdam, Holland; and Germany where he was delayed with passport problems. Making the most out of this delay, he mastered the German language in only eight days.

Orson finally reached Jerusalem after nineteen months from his departure. He wrote to Elder Parley P. Pratt, "I have only time to say that I have seen Jerusalem precisely according to the vision which I had. . . . went upon the Mount of Olives, and there, in solemn silence, with pen, ink, and paper, just as I saw in the vision, offered up the following prayer to Him who lives forever and ever..." He blessed it for the return of the Jewish nation. He blessed the nations that would help the Jews return. He included in his prayer a blessing to remove the barrenness of the land. He included, "Particularly do Thou bless the stranger in Philadelphia . . . who sent me gold." Decades later, it was discovered that the stranger was Joseph Ellison Beck. A Beck descendant attributed Elder Hyde's blessing that they never wanted for material things and that he knew of no apostates among his family.

Elder Hyde left the Holy Land for Egypt, Italy, and back through Germany where he wrote a pamphlet entitled "A Cry from the Wilderness" with an account of the Prophet's First Vision, the first time this was printed in a foreign language. He finally arrived home in 1842 after nearly a three year journey.

After the Martyrdom of Joseph and Hyrum Smith, he was left in charge of Nauvoo and dedicated the temple after the other leaders had embarked on their journey with the Saints across the plains. He was also called to return to England and put the Church in order after poor leadership. Later, he was left in charge of Kanesville, Iowa, while the other members of his quorum traveled on to the valley of the Great Salt Lake. Even later, he was charged with taking care of settlements at Fort Supply, in Wyoming, settling Carson Valley in Nevada, and, finally, presiding over the Sanpete-Sevier district in south-central Utah.

"Orson Hyde: Olive Branch of Israel" by Myrtle Stevens Hyde

Moriment Trek



Big Horn Basin Monument

UPTLA #58 | GPS: N44 50 29.6, W108 26 22.4 elevation 3914 feet (44.8415556, -108.4395556)

West of Lovell, Wyoming on US Highway 310, stands a monument memorializing pioneers who colonized the Big Horn Basin of Wyoming.

The monument was erected in 1935 by the Utah Pioneer Trails and Landmarks Association (UPTLA) and the Aaronic Priesthood Quorums of the Big Horn Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. When the UPTLA ceased to exist, The SUP agreed to maintain the monuments erected by the UPTLA.

Under the leadership of Abraham O. Woodruff, these pioneers first camped near the site of this monument in May 1900. Under many difficulties these pioneers established the towns of Byron, Cowley, and Lovell. They organized the Big Horn Stake of Zion, constructed the Sidon Canal, built Railroads, and pioneered education through founding the Big Horn Academy.

According to Wikipedia, Lovell is the largest town in Big Horn County, Wyoming, United States. The population was 2,243 at the 2020 census.



Abraham O. Woodruff



THE TRAIL MARKER NEWS

Compiled by Roland Lee

If you would like to have your chapter news printed in the Trail Marker please do the following:

1. Write-up should be one-paragraph (Less than 250 words) in MS Word or send as the text of an email. NO PDF FILES please.
2. 1 high quality jpeg photograph as an attachment to your email. Poor quality photos cannot be used.
3. Email to: rolandleefamily@gmail.com
4. News must be received by the 25th of each month

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

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!

NAMECHAPTER

NEW ANNUAL MEMBERS

Steven Batchelor.....Ogden Valley
 Ken R Coleman..... Jordan River Temple
 Terry Edwards Red Rock
 Kimball Lee Jacobs..... Bountiful
 Brad Langston.....Hurricane Valley
 Wallace A Lee Cedar City
 David MartinOgden Valley
 Jerry Thomas Myers.....Pocatello
 Mark Oviatt..... Salt Lake Pioneer
 Blaine Phillips..... Bountiful
 Roger T Russell..... Cotton Mission
 Curtis Schryver..... Centerville
 Joseph Soderborg.....Holladay
 Stephen Streeter Bountiful
 Arlen Walker.....Pocatello

NAMECHAPTER

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Lance Melvin Bybee..... Morgan Pioneer
 Andrew Michael Nelson.....Holladay

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Kathleen Norton..... Mills



BOULDER DAM CHAPTER - Boulder City / Las Vegas, Nevada



Fort Pearce

The Boulder Dam Chapter met at the St. George Temple Visitors Center where local historian Kent McComb told us about the history of the Honeymoon and Temple Trails coming from Arizona. After the temple was dedicated in 1877, these trails were used by the Saints to come to the temple to be married. They crossed Lee's Ferry to Pipe Spring and camped at Fort Pearce. We divided into

two groups. Doug Thompson led a group to Johnson Farm Dinosaur Museum and Brigham Young's Winter home. Clare Tobler led a group to Red Cliffs Temple, Fort Pearce, and the dinosaur tracks in the red sandstone below the cliffs of Sand Hollow Recreation Area. We then enjoyed a meal at Chuck-a-Rama. Good time was had by all.

BOUNTIFUL CHAPTER - Bountiful, Utah



Buffalo hide

For April, the Bountiful Chapter heard a presentation by Jeff Thorpe on the history of the buffalo at Antelope Island. The White family came to Utah from Wales. They were involved in the cattle industry. The Whites owned part of Antelope Island. John Lynch and William Glasmann planned to make a suburb in Garfield City Utah. They made

a buffalo park there to attract residents. The park did not last. J. H. White and J. E. Dooly bought the buffalo from the park and brought them to Antelope Island. The Buffalo in the United States were almost hunted to extinction, but through places like Antelope Island they have come back to around 500,000. The picture is of a Buffalo hide.

BRIGHAM YOUNG CHAPTER - Provo / Orem, Utah



R. Lanier Britsch

R. Lanier Britsch was the speaker for the April meeting of the Brigham Young Chapter. He is emeritus professor of history and Asian studies at Brigham Young University in Provo. He also served as vice president for academics at Brigham Young University-Hawaii. He has a Ph.D. from Claremont Graduate University. He has also served two full-time LDS missions in Hawaii. and has written extensively about the LDS Church in Hawaii and Asia. His works include *Unto the Islands of the Sea: A History of the*

Latter-day Saints in the Pacific; From the East: The History of the Latter-day Saints in Asia, 1851-1996; Moramona: The Mormons in Hawaii; The Polynesian Cultural Center: Ambassador to the World, and other books and articles. The title of his presentation for the meetings was: "Beloved Iosepa Kamika: President Joseph F. Smith and Hawaii": A grateful summary of Joseph F. Smith's life in and contributions to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Hawaii.

CEDAR CITY CHAPTER - Cedar City, Utah



During the month of April, we had no scheduled activities except for the National Symposium in Salt Lake City. However, our committees were busy with administering the elementary school essay contest, gathering applications for scholarships which will be awarded shortly, and in preparing for a

busy month of treks in May. We anticipate receiving as many as 400 essays from students from 7 or 8 of our local elementary schools. Students are asked to write about an ancestor or relative that inspires them. One winner from each school will be selected along

(Continued On Following Page)

with an overall winner. Our scholarship committee and board will determine the amount and number of scholarships to be awarded based on the quantity and quality of applications that we receive and how well our donations to the scholarship fund go.

Upcoming are plans for a trek to the Milford Mineral Museum on May 4th and a trek on May 18th to the Jefferson Hunt monument, markers along the Old Spanish Trail, and to the Mountain Meadows Massacre site.

CENTERVILLE CHAPTER - Centerville, Utah



Clarence Jones

Our Centerville Chapter's April meeting was again held at a local chapel where we enjoyed a wonderful ham dinner. Our speaker for the evening was Clarence Jones who is a local resident of Centerville who served as a bishop and stake president in our area. He and his wife Jayne served a mission 16 years ago to Myanmar, previously known as Burma, which is mainly made up of Buddhists. It was a humanitarian service mission and they were instructed not do formal missionary proselyting. They were so moved by what needed to be done in that country, that they have continued to make frequent trips back to provide humanitarian needs that were desperately needed. Many people there live in bamboo and grass huts and use grass mats for a beds, wash their clothes in ponds that

are also used by buffalo. That is also where they get their drinking water, so digging wells and storing water became a priority. Rainfall averages 45 inches during a 4 month period. They organized many projects during 2010-2019 in Myanmar and made many trips using local organizations to provide labor for some of the following projects: built 25 schools, drilled 66 wells in 66 villages for clean water, built 1,000 outhouses for sanitation in villages that had no toilets, built water tanks for 10 schools, gave 24 laptops to the YWCA to use for vocational training, provided 56 leg prostheses so locals could work in rice paddies and provide for their families, provided 300 pair eye glasses and many other projects.

COTTON MISSION CHAPTER - St George, Utah



Reuben Wadsworth



Roy Taylor, Rick Erickson, and David Humphrey receive the Award of Excellence

The Cotton Mission Chapter received the National Certificate of Excellence award at our meeting April 16. Following dinner served by Golden Corral Restaurant, historian and teacher Reuben Wadsworth spoke to us about the famous Dominguez and Escalante expedition in 1776. The same year the United States was born something else significant happened on the other side of the continent in an area that was not yet part of the country but would be in a little over a century's time. Two friars of the Franciscan order led an expedition across a largely unknown land, what would become

New Mexico, Colorado, Utah and Arizona, on a quest to find a suitable trade route from Santa Fe to Monterey, California. In fact, the party was originally supposed to depart on July 4, 1776, the very day of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, but got delayed because of Indian raids. Many would argue that the climax of that epic journey occurred in southwestern Utah. Reuben's presentation focused on this segment of their journey, when they traveled through the future Iron and Washington counties 75 years before that area was first settled by white people.

JORDAN RIVER TEMPLE CHAPTER - South Jordan, Utah



Gene Williams (left) and Bruce Fisher

Have any of you ever read a fictional novel about babies being switched at birth and given to the wrong parent to raise? Well this night, we actually experienced such. Gene Williams and Rod Fisher were both born in March 1944 within a few days of each other in Preston, Idaho. In the picture, Gene is on the left and Bruce Fisher, Rod's "brother", is on the right. Rod is now deceased. At 13 months old, Gene's mother and father divorced and he moved to California with his dad who raised him. His father remarried and they moved to Arizona. In elementary school, Gene started going to Church again. At the age of 19, he was called on a mission for his Church to Mexico. While at the Missionary Training Center, Gene saw another new missionary in the group who looked just like his father. Gene had always wondered why he did not resemble his father or his mother. It would be 45 years until Gene would once

again see Rod Fisher. Gene's grandmother told him that he was switched at birth and gave him information of his natural family. Gene took that information and with DNA tests proved her to be right. So, he approached his natural parents and met Rod again. DNA tests, once again, also proved to Rod who his natural parents were. This gave Gene the opportunity to meet his natural mother who was now 90 years old living in Logan, Utah. At first she denied a baby switch. But after reviewing the DNA results and given a little time, she came around to agreeing that there had been a switch. 65 years had now passed. Both Gene and Rod will never know how they got switched as babies and now they do not care to know. They have both kept their birth names. Gene told us "I was born a 'Williams' and died a 'Fisher'" will be etched into his tombstone.

LEHI CHAPTER - Lehi, Utah



Bruce Stewart

On April 8, 2024, the Lehi Chapter of Sons of Utah Pioneers were pleased to invite and hear from our National Librarian Bruce Stewart. We had about 40 people in attendance to hear the wonderful, impassioned words about record keeping and how it is an endeavor ordained by God. It was a great discussion and no one wanted it to end. We look forward to the day when more records

are revealed that testify of Christ and His divinity. We are excited to take a trip to the SUP library to see the books collected and help in their preservation.

Starting on May 18th the chapter begins our Local Lehi History Tour where we visit local historical sites once each month during the summer. We are excited for the warmth and enjoyment that the summer brings.

MESA ARIZONA CHAPTER - Mesa, Arizona



Mark Killian (center) with Chapter Trek Director Craig Linford and his wife Tina.

The Sons of Utah Pioneers Mesa Arizona Chapter held its 2nd Thursday of the month potluck dinner and presentation on April 11, 2024. After a patriotic moment, the playing of "The Star-Spangled Banner" and "Blessed, Honored Pioneer," followed by dinner, we were privileged to hear from Mark Killian. Mark has served the State of Arizona in many capacities for over 33 years, including Director of the AZ Dept. of Ag, AZ Dept of Revenue, and AZ State House of Representatives. He has also served in many

Church capacities including Stake President. Mark shared some "from the horse's mouth" information, stories and insight about our great state! Held at the Evergreen Ward building of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Tempe, Arizona. A video of Mark's presentation and Q&A session can be viewed on YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/8pOiiPem848?si=aKWhHUJJ-BDv1m7p> Photo: Mark Killian (center) with Chapter Trek Director Craig Linford and his wife Tina.

MORGAN CHAPTER - Morgan, Utah



Linda Smith



On Monday the Morgan chapter of the Sons of the Utah Pioneers met at the Rock Chapel for their April meeting. Lunch was provided by Larry's Spring Chicken inn. Chapter historian, Eldon Bohman, presented to past presidents of the chapter, Howard Hansen and Van Nelson historical binders of the activities, luncheons and meetings that occurred during their respective tenures. Chapter member Lance Bybee presented the "Pioneer Minute" with a personal introduction and a brief resume of his pioneer heritage. Lance's ancestry immigrated from England to Virginia and Kentucky where they joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints they moved to Nauvoo and with then migrated with the Saints to Utah. The Bybee family was sent to South Weber to settle that area. Lance grew up at the Weber

Canyon power plant, his dad managed and shared some of the experiences of living by the river. He was employed most of his life by the Federal government and he and his wife, Cheryl, have served four missions for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. The main program was presented by Linda Smith, founder and retired director of the Morgan Historical Society. She shared many stories of the history of Morgan including some about the early Native American tribes that inhabited the area prior to the migration of Utah Pioneers. She shared more recent stories of families settling in the area, the naming of some of the peaks of the Wasatch range to our West and how the Historical Society came to be. Linda encouraged members to search out family histories and share them.

PORTER ROCKWELL CHAPTER - Salt Lake City South, Utah



Scholarship Winners

The Porter Rockwell Chapter awarded five scholarships to area graduating high school seniors at their April 24 meeting. Applicants were sought from all area high schools, and ironically, all five winners happened to be from Herriman High School. Their excellence was well noted as each one gave an oral report summarizing their essay illustrating outstanding achievements of an ancestor. Pictured are Jack Theler, chapter scholarship

chairman; students Ashton Wilkinson (UofU or UVU), Parker Larsen (SLCC), Kate Garner (BYU), Megan Snowball (UVU), and Bradley Hyer (Snow College); and Heather Anderson, Herriman HS scholarship advisor. Ashton and Bradley will be serving missions prior to entering college. This is an excellent group of young people, and we know they will be successful.

SALT LAKE CITY CHAPTER - Salt Lake City, Utah



SUP Headquarters

The February Chapter Meeting was at the SUP Library. Since the beginning of Sons of Utah Pioneers in the 1930's, the Society has been collecting ancestral histories and other historical items. The current effort is to bring all of it into the modern era by making it accessible to the rising generation, i.e., those who will "not" read a book, but will dive deep using their cell phones. These photos are a

small sample of the presentation and those who were very well informed and fascinated at what is occurring at the National Library, under the direction of the National Library Director, Bruce G Stewart, and a volunteer staff including Church Service missionaries who are diligently converting the holdings to digitized images all word searchable.

SALT LAKE PIONEER CHAPTER - Downtown Salt Lake City, Utah



Ken Williams

When: Wednesday, May 8, at 12pm. Please email jedavis2012@gmail.com to RSVP.

Location: Monson Center - Carriage House, 411 E. South Temple, rear building, upper floor. ADA Accessible.

Cost: \$25 per person.

Speaker: Ken Williams is State Archivist of Utah and functions as the Utah State Archives and Records Service director. He has worked at the State Archives since 1992. As a child of a military family, Ken was born abroad and lived in several states, but his roots are completely Utahan. He graduated from Utah State University with a degree in History and worked his way through graduate school as an intern in the Special Collections

at USU. Ken also completed post-graduate studies in History and Archives at Florida State University and attended the Georgia Archives Institute. He currently serves as the immediate past President of the Council of State Archivists.

As director, Ken has adopted the strategic vision that looks to ensure the “right records, to the right people, at the right time.” Currently, the division is concentrating all efforts on digital preservation and access. Ken is an avid family historian, loves to garden and care for a historic home, and drives everyone crazy bragging about his grandchild.

Webpage: Click [HERE](#) to see all of the Salt Lake Pioneer Chapter's upcoming events and watch past luncheon presentations.

SETTLEMENT CANYON CHAPTER - Tooele, Utah



Bob and Linda Clegg

On April 4, 2024 Long-time Tooele residents Linda and Bob Clegg who recently returned home from serving in the Illinois Historic Sites Mission as Family History Specialists treated the Settlement Canyon Chapter with an overview of their mission experiences. Linda and Bob served for several months in the Nauvoo Visitors' Center at

the Land and Record Desk helping visitors identify properties owned by individuals during the Nauvoo period and completing several projects assigned by the Church History Department. They also served at the Nauvoo Family Search Center. They loved their time serving as missionaries.

TAYLORSVILLE-BENNION CHAPTER - Taylorsville, Utah



Doug Brewer and Wes Brewer

For the March Chapter Meeting of the Taylorsville-Bennion Chapter, we had the opportunity to listen to Doug Brewer and Wes Brewer. Doug recited several cowboy poems to us and Wes sang a few cowboy songs for us. It was a great entertaining evening. We also had the privilege of listening to one of our members - Brent Cartwright. Brent told us some history of his ancestors William

and Elizabeth Xavier Tait. William had the opportunity of organizing the Church in Puna, India. He immigrated to the United States in 1855. Elizabeth was 6 months pregnant when they came to the United States. They crossed the plains with the Willie Handcart company. It was an enjoyable evening for all in attendance.

TEMPLE FORK CHAPTER - Logan, Utah*Jason Thompson*

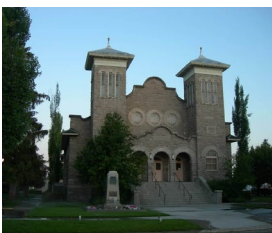
Greetings from beautiful Cache Valley. The Temple Fork Chapter held its April meeting and dinner on April 15th at the Logan Country Club. Our speaker was the Mayor of River Heights, Jason Thompson. Mayor Thompson gave a brief history of River Heights. He then presented about his extensive collection of LDS books. His collection includes: One of 300 surviving first editions copies of the Book Of

Mormon, one of 33 surviving first editions of the Doctrine and Covenants, a Deseret alphabet copy of the Book Of Mormon, and a copy of the first edition of The Pearl of Great Price. These are just a few in his collection. Mayor Thompson brought several of these books with him which we were allowed to view but not touch. This was a great meeting that helped tie us to our ancestors.

TIMPANOGOS CHAPTER - American Fork, Utah*Alexander L. Baugh*

On April 18th, our Timpanogos chapter was honored to host Alexander L. Baugh, PhD. We were treated to his mesmerizing presentation on the treasure trove of priceless and significant properties and artifacts that came from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' purchase of the Kirtland Temple from the Community of Christ church. We gained a deeper knowledge of our prophet, Joseph Smith, along with insights of these newly acquired historic sites and artifacts each relating to people and events during the Restoration of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Among the many property acquisitions we learned of were: The Kirtland Temple, the Smith Family Homestead, the Mansion House and Nauvoo House, the Red Brick Store, and other small undeveloped lots in Kirtland, Ohio. Among the artifact acquisitions we learned of were: Joseph Smith's

writing desk, an 1820s couch associated with the Whitney family, an oval window frame, the front door keystone and frame, a stone arch, many windows, and pieces of original stucco and sandstone. On the acquisition of these things, a church spokesperson said, "We feel that we are prepared now for this time and for this responsibility and stewardship. It all seemed to gather together and come forth in what looks like an orchestrated manner, but we just did our part and are happy to be in this position." These sentiments ring true to those of us honored to be in the Sons of the Utah Pioneer club. Yoked with like-minded friends in the stewardship of traditions and values that shape families, communities and nations. It was an honor to host and learn from Alexander L. Baugh.

UPPER SNAKE RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER - Rexburg, Idaho*Museum of Rexburg*

F. Martell Grover, Area Vice-President, awarded our chapter with the 2024 Chapter of Excellence Award. Receiving the award was the chapter president, Merrill Pratt. This is the fifth consecutive year we have received this award. What is the future of the Rexburg Tabernacle? The Rexburg Museum? These questions were answered at our Sons of Utah Pioneer member meeting on Thursday, April

18. Alisha Tietjen, Curator of the Rexburg Museum was the speaker. She was introduced by Louis Clements, Director of the Upper Valley Historical Society. The evening program was capped with the showing of the new documentary film about the Teton Dam Flood, entitled "Flood of Memories" which can be viewed on BYU-TV

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