

Trail Marker

Official Newsletter of the National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers™
March 2006, Volume 2, Number 2

AREA COUNCIL TRAINING MEETINGS COMPLETED

By Saturday, February 25, the **nine Area Council Training** meetings were completed with two meetings held at the National Headquarters Building for the four Salt Lake areas. Over **250** officers and board members were trained under the new format established by the new Bylaws. The reaction of most chapters was **very positive** as each session included a visit by one or more members of the National Executive Council and involved breakout sessions that enabled board members to share with each other their experiences and ideas on how to better meet the goals of the chapters. The Area Vice Presidents did a **wonderful** job in organizing and carrying out the training in their areas.



Left to right, top to bottom: Areas 1 & 2, St. George ; Area VP, Marvin Jewel leads at Areas 4 & 6; Areas 5 & 7, Salt Lake City; Idaho Falls; Areas 9 & 10, Provo; Tooele; 100 participants attended St. George (bottom)

The **focus areas** for chapters for 2006 were generally agreed to in each Area Council meeting. Chapter leaders were encouraged to **set goals** in these areas.

- Promote the **Three-fold Mission** of the SUP; **Preserve** Pioneer Heritage, **Honor** Modern Pioneers, **Teach** Pioneers Values to the Youth.
- Grow chapters through member **Renewals**, **Recruitment** and **Reactivation**
- Improve communications through **Chapter newsletters**, the **TrailMarker**, the SUP **website**

and the **Pioneer** magazine.

- Conduct chapter **treks** to historic **sites** and be engaged in erecting a **monument**.
- Honor **Modern Pioneers** in chapter meetings and publicize the event.
- Sponsor programs to promote **Tomorrow's Pioneers** such as the High School **Scholarship Program** and the Elementary Historic **Essay** program.
- Support the Martins Cove **SUP 2006 Medallion Program**.
- Improve the quality of chapter meetings with institution of a **Speakers Bureau** at Area and National levels.

Thank you Chapter Presidents for accepting the challenge by the Area Vice Presidents to have a good attendance at the meetings and to assist in the training through meaningful discussion and interchange. Similar training meetings will be held each year for new chapter officers. (Two or three pictures of Area Council meetings in progress. I will forward some to Reed for selection. Grant suggests the Cotton Mission and Areas 5 and 7 Salt Lake pictures)

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Chapters President Council will be held on **Saturday, April 22, 2006 at 10AM in the National Headquarters Building**. All Chapter Presidents or their representatives are invited to this special meeting conducted by **Grant Barton**, our National President. An agenda for this meeting will be distributed in mid March.

WEBSITE

Have you looked at the SUP website lately? sonsofutahpioneers.org. Our Executive Manager, **Wendell Miller**, has updated many pages and is helping construct new pages. The **Trail Marker** is now being posted in the Resource section of the website. Two issues will be displayed at all times. Soon the lead articles from the Pioneer Magazine will appear on the site.

2006 CONVENTION IN MIDWAY (HEBER VALLEY, UTAH)

The 2006 Convention will be held **September 14-16** in picturesque Midway at the new Zermatt Convention Center. This will be a convention no one will want to miss. Registration materials are included in the March *Pioneer* magazine, and a mailing to all members will be sent later in March. The Mountain Valley Chapter has planned for varied activities including a Western dinner at the Winter Olympic Soldiers Hollow, a ride through the colorful fall foliage on the Heber Creeper, an evening of 1940-1960 dance music at the Midway Social Center's marvelous coil spring dancing floor, and a concluding banquet featuring LDS Church Historian, Marlin K. Jensen.



SUP members can make their room reservations directly with the Zermatt Spa by phone at 1-800-573-6523 or 435-654-0596, or by e-mail to "zermatt.dolce.com". To get the special rate of \$99/night/room plus tax, identify yourself as a member of The Sons of Utah Pioneers, the specific nights you will be staying (Thurs 9/14/06, Fri 9/15, or Sat 9/16) and give them a national credit card to hold your room. They are blocking out 200 rooms until July 30, 2006, and reservations will have to be made before that date to get this \$99 rate. Rooms can be reserved

starting today. If anyone would like to come up to 3 days early or stay up to 3 days after, a special rate of \$125/night will be available. These rooms are normally \$176/night.

Sharing Time – Ideas for Chapters

Are you planning your summer treks? Here's a good idea: Plan to visit some historic markers and monuments placed in the past by your chapter or others. While you're at it, please clean the site if needed, take pictures of monuments and plaques and record the gps coordinates. Then write a good description of the history of the site and its exact location, and send all this to wendellm@networld.com to be placed on the national website, in place of the inadequate information we now have there. You can visit the website at www.sonsofusahpioneers.org to see a complete list of all the monuments and markers which have been placed by the SUP. Stewart Radmall, the national program director for Treks and Monuments will be glad to assist you. Contact him at dadrads@aol.com or 801-479-8308.

More Trek Ideas: A wonderful, longer trek, celebrating this year's susquicentennial of the Mormon Handcarts, could be to Martin;s Cove, Wyoming and/or to Kearney, Nebraska, where the Mormon, Oregon and California Trails converge. The Nebraska Mormon Trails Association (Email, robrian@archway.org) has invited the SUP to visit the \$60 million Archway Monument, featured in the center spread of the Church Section February 25th. Enjoy the displays, demonstrations, speakers wagon rides and good food. For more information, visit www.handcarttrek.org. **For still more trek ideas, see Chapter News in this issue.**

Guest Speakers

Larry Dahl, prominent author and retired BYU professor, is available as a speaker on the Wasatch Front. He speaks eloquently of church history and was the first Director of the Nauvoo LDS Academy. (Phone 801.373.5948). **Rick Robison**, President of The Mideast Source (www.mideastsource.com) is a popular speaker on the volatile Middle East. He has worked for private industry and for the U.S. Foreign Service and the CIA.

CHAPTER NEWS

The Cotton Mission Chapter, now 81 members strong, "set the pace" with the most gift subscriptions during the holidays to the Pioneer Magazine. Many other chapters joined this fine effort. The subscription base of The Pioneer is becoming stronger. Thanks to all, for helping.

The Cotton Mission Chapter is planning three summer treks: The first is for a half day to many historic sites in St. George City. The second will visit Iosepa in Skull Valley, the WWII Internment camp near Delta and the Great Basis Museum. This chapter also has a wonderful website of their own, which (among other good things) has a great section on Historic Places in Washington and Iron Counties. Visit them at www.sonsofusahpioneers.info

The Hurricane Valley Chapter, for the 100th anniversary of the city, is just completing a big project creating a video to document the history of the famous Hurricane Canal – the "lifeblood" of the valley. Victor Hall has spent over 1,000 hours as chairman of this project. He took some of the Sons of the Pioneers out to shoot what it must have been like to break apart the lava rock as they dug the canal and encountered those big boulders. At other times he has shot footage of some



of the sons of the pioneers playing the part of their ancestors as they try to make the decision to start this mammoth project.

The new Lehi Chapter invites you to join them for a Lehi Historic Bus Tour, featuring Porter Rockwell, Overland Stage, and Pony Express History (May 9, \$27 per person) and the Overland Stage Coach dinner and program (July 19, \$10 per person). Contact 801.768.0307.

The Grove City Chapter (Blackfoot, Idaho), under chairman Stan Harwell, is planning a four day trek to Montana – Dillon, Nevada City, Virgin City, Butte and the Lewis and Clark Caverns – plus a few ghost towns and museums. Sounds interesting!

The Pioneer Heritage Chapter and **The Settlement Canyon Chapter** both featured their sweethearts in Valentine dinners. Pioneer Heritage gives it's guest speakers a complimentary subscription to the Pioneer Magazine. They also provide a subscription to widows of their members, and make them welcome as guests at their dinner meetings. Good going!

Dinner Speakers: **The South Davis Chapter** enjoyed an informative talk by F. Michael Watson, Secretary to the First Presidency. The Squaw Peak Chapter heard Elder Rolfe Kerr of the Seventy, and the LDS Commissioner of Higher Education, and has scheduled the well-known composer, Dr. Crawford Gates, of "Promised Valley" and Hill Cumorah Pageant fame. Here's an idea for small chapters: **The Salt Lake City** and **Twin Peaks** chapters **joined together** for their monthly meeting, and heard Ron John, the Project Director for the "re-incarnation" of the Hotel Utah into the Joseph Smith Memorial Building.



In Memorium: Paul Longstroth Richards, Born March 17, 1917 in Salt Lake City, UT, passed away January 16, 2006 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

What should we say here?

The 'Trail Marker' is the official newsletter of the National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers.

Please send or email your pictures and stories to:

National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers
3301 East 2920 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84109

Phone: 801-484-4441 Fax: 801-484-2067 email: sup@networld.com



Mesa Board



Areas 4 & 6 breakout



Areas 4 & 6 Marvin Jewel



Areas 4 & 6 Barton



5 & 7 Salt Lake and Davis Counties



Areas 1 & 2 St. George



Areas 9 & 10 Provo



Idaho Falls



One-hundred attended the Area Training Meeting held in St. George on February 4, 2006.



1) National Officers and three Chapter Presidents at Tooele Area Training: Settlement Canyon (Bruce Bird), Twenty Wells (David Jefferies) and Taylorsville-Bennion (Russ Wall).



2) Bob Blakely conducting the Tooele Area Training Meeting (with Wendell Christensen's head injury from falling on the ice. Like a trooper, Wendell conducted his training). I like the picture of Bob (editing out Wendell) because it shows a Vice President taking charge, which we're promoting.



3) Chapter leaders attending the Tooele Area Training meeting (not too great a shot)

Find attached two pictures to promote others donating a flag to the SUP National Building:



Two pictures from Mesa. One of the Board at our training meeting on January 21. The other a picture of the 2007 Convention Hotel, the Mesa Marriott.

The latter to be held for use after Heber. The former may be used in a collage of Area Council Meetings in a March issue. Jay

Brother Miller.

I am not sure if this is the publication or the Pioneer Magazine is the place for something like this. But our chapter felt like it would be a fitting tribute to Robert as he was a faithful attendee to our Gathering.

Attached is a poem written by Gail Burgess of the Mesa Arizona Chapter about his son who passed away in Hawaii just before Christmas at 37 years of age. Robert Frank Burgess was handicapped but accomplished a lot in his short life with the help of his father. The poem gives a brief outline of his life. The Lucy is the girl friend he looked for all his life.

He was made an Honorary Member of the Mesa Arizona Chapter.

Lowell H Heaton
President
Mesa Arizona Chapter

POEM

Robert has arrived,
At a state of rest Peace,
He will miss Christmas Dinner,
His Mother's annual feast,
This Christmas will be a sad one,
For he will not be there,
All we have to remember
Is a sweet picture of him here,
But on the other side,
What joy there will be on high,
With Robert and his relatives,
Who never again will die,
Grandpa & Grandma Burgess,
Nana Gresko too,
Uncle Basil Thomas,
Just to name a few
Dad Scout Burgess is left behind,
Mama Myrna stays here, too,
To become a little better,
So we can come and live with you,
The man in charge above,
Knew dear Robert well,
and this year needed him up above,
To ring the Christmas Bell,
Dad will feel lonely,
Driving solo on to Scouts
Striving to remember Robert's spirit,
To enlighten any doubts,
The Mesa Temple Visitors Center,
Traditions hang a little low,
Remembering Robert's mission,
And the people he counted on the go,
Robert's favorite calling,
Was ringing the Sunday School bell,

He is very Thankful to Bishop Layton,
For trusting him so well,
Now Dad and Mon quit crying,
I'll have Lucy up there with me,
And this everlasting romance,
Will make us a happy as can be.

By Gail T. Burgess

MEET WENDELL MILLER

As of January 1, 2006, the SUP has a new Executive Manager, **Wendell Miller**. He replaces



Frank Brown who served faithfully in this position for many years. Wendell is a member of the Holladay Chapter. He has a background in **computers** and is currently taking a class in web design to help develop the SUP Website and keep it current. He has responded well to the new organizational structure of the SUP, and is proving invaluable to the Executive Council, the National Board, and the National Program Directors in providing assistance in carrying out the mission of the SUP organization.

Finally, Big Thanks and Kudos to The Mills Chapter for giving \$500 to keep the flag flying at National headquarters. Wonderful! The huge 15 ft. by 25 ft. American flag is highly visible from the top of our lofty flagpole, but canyon winds make it expensive to maintain and the flag is often missing. We're looking for three other chapters who will join in this effort to keep "Old Glory" waiving above the freeway. **Thanks a million, Mills Chapter!**



Left - Flag flying on 60 foot flagpole. Flagpole was dedicated in 2000, with Senator Hatch in attendance.

Right - The Mills Chapter board, that authorized the expenditure of \$500 to purchase a large American Flag for the SUP National Building. Thanks a million Mills!!



This is a link to the Rexburg Temple online camera.

<http://www.byui.edu/Webcameras/camView.asp?camera=temple>