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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE




In October 2007, I remember a talk given by President Henry B. Eyring, 2nd Counselor in the First Presidency of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, during the Church's General Conference. His talk was titled, "O, Remember, Remember". Even though the context was in reference to ways to recognize God's hand and **remember** God's kindness in our lives, it is certainly appropriate to apply those same principles in our recognition of the influence our ancestors have had in our lives. We can also use this metaphor to contemplate the contributions and influences that our lives may have on future generations.

The Mission Statement of the National Society of the Sons of Utah Pioneers in part states, "Preserve the **memory** and heritage of the early pioneers" Just important as preserving these **memories**, we need to ask ourselves, "What have I done to preserve **memories** of my personal life and what legacy do I want to pass on to my posterity?"

I have a daughter who has served in law enforcement for over 30 years. Law enforcement officers receive specific training in preparing incident reports. They are instructed to write incident reports that are thorough and accurate with all the facts and circumstances. These reports may be relied upon as evidence in future court cases. They are taught that "If it isn't recorded, it didn't happen."

Each of us is unique. Each of us has a life that is full of experiences and stories that are humorous, interesting, inspiring, encouraging, uplifting, and enlightening that will endear us to our family members and future generations. If we do not take the opportunity to write our personal histories and stories, how will we be **remembered**? Our children will **remember** us, our grandchildren might **remember** us, our great grandchildren will only **remember** us as an old man sitting in a rocking chair, if they **remember** us at all. Future generations will not know anything about us unless we provide our life histories and stories by which they can **remember** us. Our life stories reflect the values of faith in God, devotion to family, loyalty to church and country, hard work and service to others, courage in adversity, and unyielding determination. These are the same values that we honor in our early pioneers. As they inspire us with their legacy and heritage, our posterity and future generations can learn just as much about us even though we might be separated by many years.

Let our posterity and future generations "turn their hearts to us", even **REMEMBER** us, as we **REMEMBER** those early pioneers.


L. Nate Pierce
2023 National President

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



Please submit your stories to our Pioneer Stories Director, Rich Kirkham at rich@richkirkham.com

STORY OF A PIONEER SLAVE

By Richard D. Kirkham, AVP Pioneer Stories

Green Flake was born into slavery in Mississippi in 1818 in North Carolina on the plantation of James Flake's father, and spent all his early life with them. He came with them to Nauvoo when they joined the Church, then he journeyed west during the exodus from Nauvoo. He was baptized just two months before the Martyrdom of the Prophet, on April 7, 1844 in the Mississippi River by John Brown. Green was given to Brigham Young by James Flake, along with a team of white mules to pull a carriage in the first company of pioneers to cross the plains to help the Brigham Young Company to their destination.

Green Flake was among the first to enter the Salt Lake Valley on July 22, 1847 preceded by Orson Pratt and Erastus Snow on July 21, 1847. Green recalled years later his journey west, and the first time he saw a buffalo calf. He had to ask the other driver what it was as he had never seen one before.

Green also remembered seeing a band of Indians wearing warpaint. They swarmed around the company and demanded payment for crossing Indian territory. This encounter with the Indians both impressed and frightened him. He had been instructed to send the outfit back with some of the brethren who would be returning east, and that he was to remain and build a house for the Flakes. By August 23, 1847, twenty-nine log cabins had been erected and 107 men began the return trip east with Brigham Young to assist other members in their journey west. Green drove one of the wagons back, then returned the following summer with the Flake family who arrived in 1848. They were happy to see Green and delighted that he had carefully followed their instructions, and had faithfully built them a log house.

Green married Martha Vilate Crosby (also known as Martha Ann Morris) daughter of Vilate Crosby, who came to Utah with the Crosbys in 1848. Martha was born in Mississippi in 1828. She and Green Flake were married ca. 1848-50. They became the parents of four children.

Pres. Brigham Young felt a need for the men in the 1st company to be rebaptized, so Green was rebaptized August 8, 1847 by Tarleton Lewis and confirmed by Wilford Woodruff. Green and his family were faithful members of Union Ward and continually paid a full tithing. Green settled in Union,



Utah as a free man with his wife and children settling two miles Northeast of Union Fort.

Green was interested in many things. For example, he was involved with a mining pursuit and held mining claims in 1870. He owned a herd of cattle and his brand was registered with the territory 1878. An article in the Church News dated June 17, 1978, made the comment that Green Flake also worked in the stone quarries hauling Granite for the Salt Lake temple. Green loved to share his singing talents with others and found pleasure in attending the dances held for the community at Union Co-op Hall. He was loved and respected by the people of Union.

Martha died January 20, 1885. Her funeral was conducted at the Union Ward Chapel, and she was buried in the Union Pioneer Cemetery.

By 1896 Green had sold all his property in Union and moved to Grayslake, Idaho. In 1897 at the time of the 50th Jubilee Pioneer celebration green flake had been invited to attend the affair. He sent a letter from Grayslake and replied, "Mr. Clawson, Dear friend, I received your most kind and welcome letter and ticket, and was glad to receive it, and I will be down to the jubilee." Indeed he did take part as an honored guest at the Jubilee held in Salt Lake City in 1897 with all the other then still living pioneers, and was pictured in the large photograph taken of all the attending guests

Green died October 20, 1903 at his son Abraham's home in Idaho Falls Idaho. His funeral was held in the Union Ward chapel, after which mourners formed a cortege of wagons to accompany the body to its final resting place in the Union Pioneer Cemetery next to his wife, Martha.

Green was a faithful Latter-day Saint to the end of his days. He was valiant in his testimony of the divine mission of the Prophet Joseph Smith. He was praised as a kind man, well liked by everyone. It was said of him that he was educated enough to never do anything wrong. A monument of blue Limestone to mark his memory was placed on their graves in the Union Pioneer Memorial Cemetery. One side of the stone is sandblasted with the inscription, "In my father's house are many mansions." On the other side is engraved "Martha flake, born in Mississippi 1828, died January 20, 1885." (Reference: Family Search, Memories)

Mormon Trek

Platte River Crossing



Pioneers from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
 Constructed the first Ferry crossing the Platte River in 1847
 GPS: N42 50 41.3, W106 22 30.1 elevation 5174 feet (42.8448056, -106.3750278)

In Casper, Natrona County, Wyoming stands a monument Erected by the Utah Pioneer Trails and Landmarks Association in connection with the Natrona County Historical Society and the citizens of Wyoming. This monument has stood since 1932 to memorialize the first commercial ferry crossing the Platte River.

The "Mormon Ferry" was established 1/2 mile south of the monument in June 1847 by "Mormon" Pioneers on their way to the Valley of the Great Salt Lake. Brigham Young directed nine men to remain to operate the ferry. They were

Thomas Grover, Captain, John S. Higbee, Luke S. Johnson, Appleton M. Harmon, Edmond D. Ellsworth, Francis M. Pomeroy, William Empey, James Davenport and Benjamin F. Stewart.

The first passengers were Missourians bound for Oregon.

The monument is in Casper, Wyoming at the Mills Memorial Park, at the corner of 9th Street and Platte Avenue (a dead end of that intersection). The monument is on the opposite side of the River from the Fort Casper, and about a half mile north.



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

Craig Simons..... Portneuf Pioneers
 Ross Smedley Bountiful
 Dean D Briggs.....Morgan Pioneer
 Steve Croxall..... Portneuf Pioneers
 Richard Dame..... Red Rock
 Max Oldroyd..... Temple Quarry
 Steve Packer Portneuf Pioneers
 Gary Farnsworth Player Cedar City
 Ryan Wall Cotton Mission
 Richard Wolff Portneuf Pioneers

NAMECHAPTER

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Greg Coon Mills
 Evan Schofield Coon Mills
 Daniel Eatchel.....Ogden Pioneer

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Jerry C Higginson Salt Lake Pioneer
 Bruce Wasden..... Taylorsville Bennion

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



GIVE THE GIFT OF PIONEER MAGAZINE

For over 75 Years, the Sons of Utah Pioneers Pioneer Magazine has provided a venue for award-winning authors to cast fresh light on significant Utah historical events, people, and places. Utah's fascinating story is told in each beautifully illustrated issue with riveting text, exquisite art and rich photography.

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BOX ELDER CHAPTER - Brigham City, Utah*Development of Firearms*

For our Oct, dinner meeting we heard from Jeff Lowe. He gave a good presentation on the development of firearms. He is very knowledgeable and has 8 full uniforms in his possession. The first firearm was developed and used in 1280 - the Matchlock. It was a hand held cannon and required 2 or 3 men to ready and fire. Because of the manpower it took, it wasn't used very long. The Wheellock was introduced in 1645. It would fire nearly instantly when the trigger was pulled, but only the wealthy could afford one. Soldiers

and common people used a Blunderbuss. It was shorter, easier to use, and could be loaded with nails, glass, gravel or what was available. In 1776, Washington had 900 soldiers who carried .75 caliber rifles and they were extremely accurate. The Springfield Flintlock was the longest used weapon in the US. That is the one issued to the Nauvoo Legion. When the Mormon Battalion was outfitted at Ft Leavenworth, they chose the Flintlock because they were familiar with it.

BRIGHAM YOUNG CHAPTER - Provo / Orem, Utah*Richard Turley and Barbara Jones Brown*

At the October meeting, we were privileged to hear Barbara Jones Brown and Richard E. Turley Jr. discuss the Mountain Meadows Massacre. Working with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' history department, they delved into historical documents, resulting in the book *Vengeance Is Mine: The Mountain Meadows Massacre and Its Aftermath*. Barbara Brown's journey as a devoted church member led her to confront the grim reality of early church members' involvement in the massacre. She shared her emotional struggle as common myths were shattered. Her research led her to meet with descendants of the victims, initially wary but eventually embracing

her as an ally committed to preserving the memory of the victims and the massacre site. Brown concluded with a poignant quote by Kate Quinn, emphasizing the importance of remembrance to prevent history from repeating itself. Richard Turley, adopting a scholarly approach, outlined seven critical lessons from the massacre, underscoring the need to avoid fanaticism, resist reacting to rumors, shun peer pressure, engage in council, reveal wrongdoings, address difficult topics truthfully, and love one's enemies. Turley stressed that adherence to any of these principles could have prevented the tragedy.

CEDAR CITY CHAPTER - Cedar City, Utah*Trekees at Old Sorrell Statue*

On Saturday October 14th twenty-five of our members were led on an all-day trek to follow the Old Sorrell trail that runs from the Jensen Sawmill in the mountains east of Cedar City into town. We were led by our mayor and fellow SUP member, Garth Green. He took us to five of the monuments that mark important spots along the trail. We enjoyed viewing the solar eclipse from a great spot on the mountain. Ryan Paul, an historian at Southern Utah University reviewed the history behind the building of the Old Main school building which was the precursor to SUU and the amazing story of Old Sorrell, a

horse that played a critical role in breaking trail through the snow to bring down the first load of lumber and in establishing the route that would be used through the winter to bring lumber into Cedar City. True grit was shown by these early pioneers who in the dead of winter brought thousands of board feet of lumber from the Jensen Sawmill 35 miles away over a 10,000 foot mountain. At the end of our trek on the Old Sorrell Trail, the Green's treated the group to grilled hamburgers and hotdogs with all the trimmings.

CENTERVILLE CHAPTER - Centerville, Utah



John Sillito

Our October Centerville Chapter meeting was attended by 47 individuals and included a dutch oven dinner prepared by our SUP President and Past President and their wives. The guest speaker for the evening was John Sillito who spoke on his book "B.H. Roberts: A life in the Public Arena." John worked as the archivist, curator of special collections, and professor of libraries at Weber State University. He has authored and co-authored many books and other articles and publications which have won several awards. He has spent over twenty years

researching B.H. Roberts' life. B.H. Roberts won the election for U.S. Congress but was never seated because congress expelled him due to his polygamous lifestyle. He served several missions and as a mission president. At age 60 he served as an army chaplain in WWI. Among Roberts' most significant written works were his six volumes, A Comprehensive History of the Church. B.H. is buried in our Centerville Cemetery, and his rock house still stands as a residence and historic site in our city.

COTTON MISSION CHAPTER - St George, Utah



Dennis Holland

Dennis Holland, a member of our chapter was our speaker at the October 17 dinner meeting. As a resident of northern California, Brother Holland realized that the community wasn't fully aware of the role the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints played in the development of California. He and others developed a program of education for the schools which was widely accepted. Eventually the Church called him to head up

a mission doing that very thing and Brother Holland was called as president of the California LDS Living History Church Service Mission. Their responsibility was to build bridges of understanding with the public about the contributions of pioneers before 1869, especially members of the Mormon Battalion to the history and development of California. Brother Holland shared a number of experiences while he served there.

HURRICANE CHAPTER - Hurricane, Utah



Cove Fort Trek

Our SUP chapter has had a very busy September and early October with a number of very worthwhile events. On **September 23rd** we had the opportunity to rededicate the Sheep Shearing Ranch Memorial with a new plaque. Thanks to Lee Beatty, Merlin Spendlove and Art Reck, who made this project come together. Roland Hall gave the dedicatory prayer, Danny Halterman presented on his experiences as a professional sheep shearer and Leon Gubler and Andy Ballard provided mule and wagon rides for the thirty eight who attended, including a number of children. A buffet potluck continental breakfast was provided and the event was enjoyed by all.

October 2nd was our own chapter fund raising concert with Eric Dodge and Andy Dodge and John Houston performing. Thanks to Brian Hinton for heading up this one and Brad Winder and all who helped with the root beer floats after, as well as with set up and take down. We made about \$3,000 for our chapter.



Leon Gubler and his Wagons

On **September 28th**, our chapter and the DUP had the responsibility to organize and prepare the food for 500 at the Veterans Memorial Park fundraiser hosted by the City of Hurricane.

October 7th we had nineteen attend our trek to Cove Fort and Marysvale's Bullion Canyon. We had a picnic lunch at Cove Fort after the tour. Great information was provided by DeMar and Helen Gubler as they had served a mission there thirteen years ago. Shawn Pearson, David Isom's son in law and native to Marysvale, presented researched information on gold mining history of the area and a tour of the outdoor museum was made by the group before returning home. A very enjoyable day for all. Thanks to all who helped put the trek together.

JORDAN RIVER TEMPLE CHAPTER - South Jordan, Utah



Ron Hardy

At our October meeting, Ron Hardy our Chapter President, presented his pioneer ancestors' presentation "Our Ancestors." Ron's 2nd great grandfather is Augustus Hardy. Ron also had pictures of his great grandfather and his mission to the St. George area. In 1861 the Hardy family were part of a group of 309 families settling St. George. In 1865 they tried to raise cotton in that area. They also had great success converting the local Indian tribe. Earnest Hardy is Ron's grandfather. Earnest's home is still standing and occupied in St. George. Jaelyne

Hathaway and her husband Kent presented the story of Dennis Winn rescuing his sister Mary Ann Winn. She was emigrating to the Salt Lake Valley with the Martin Handcart company when it was stranded by the early snowstorms on the trail. Her brother, Dennis, was sent to rescue those pioneers emigrating when he discovered his sister, Mary Ann. She lived to enjoy her life in the Salt Lake Valley. Also this month's meeting, many Chapter members and spouses received "Certificates of Appreciation" for their service to our SUP Chapter during this past year.

MESA ARIZONA CHAPTER - Mesa, Arizona



Steven Bowles

We have recently lost two stalwart members of our Chapter and of SUP as an organization: Harvey Zilm and Bill Snarr. Both were true pioneers and men of God, and are sorely missed. Our "2nd Thursday of the Month" gathering was held October 12th at the Evergreen Ward building in Tempe, AZ. We enjoyed our typically delicious pot luck dinner, patriotic moment and pledge of the flag of the United States, followed by an excellent trumpet rendition of The Star-Spangled Banner by current Past President Matt Wharton. Steven and Shirley Bowles from the Tempe Arizona Family

Search Center introduced the group to the Connected program: a marvelous tool that introduces people to family history work, and an individual's family history in particular, as it relates to the founders of the community in which they live. Connected Tempe is the initial program, so we all were shown if/how each of us are related to the founders of the City of Tempe. Steve also discussed the effective use of our local Family Search Centers and how family history works well as a missionary tool.

A video of the presentation may be viewed on YouTube, [HERE](#).

MORGAN CHAPTER - Morgan, Utah



Dave Newman

On Monday Oct 16 the group heard from Dave Newman, author, educator, photographer and lecturer. Mr. Newman served a full-time mission to Berlin Germany and ran a successful photography studio in Holliday, Utah for 35 years. He has authored several books on photography and holds multiple degrees on the same. Dave has lectured throughout the world and retired as an adjunct professor from BYU-Hawaii. He discussed the life and legend of Orrin Porter

Rockwell, a faithful friend and body guard to Joseph Smith and Brigham Young. Rockwell served as a lawman in the Utah Territory, a business man and bounty hunter. He had many nicknames including "Old Port" and "The Destroying Angel of Mormondom." Orrin Porter Rockwell was well known throughout the West and was credited with and accused of many things, some true and many, probably not.

OGDEN PIONEER CHAPTER - Ogden, Utah



Brad Mortenson

Brad Mortenson, Weber State University President, was the guest speaker. Brad talked about his pioneer ancestors and growing up on a potato farm in Idaho. His father made sure the children got university educations. He spoke about Weber State University (WSU) open enrollment, efforts to attract Ogden Hispanic population, partnerships with technical colleges, and efforts to provide qualified workers for local community. He described WSUs multiple campuses, and

how the Davis Campus has grown from one building to five. WSU automotive technology is recognized as one of the top ten in the nation and is in the top ten percent in terms of return on investment. Weber State has more than 100 undergraduate majors, and areas of emphasis that lead to associate or bachelor degrees. It offers assessment testing and counseling to find the right major for everyone.

SALT LAKE PIONEER CHAPTER - Downtown Salt Lake City, Utah



Heidi Swinton

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

Location: Thomas S. Monson Center Carriage House, 411 E. South Temple.

Cost: \$25 per person.

Speaker: Heidi is one of the newer board members of the Mormon Historic Sites Foundation. A gifted writer, Heidi is the author of *To the Rescue* (President Thomas S. Monson's official biography) and *Joseph Smith American Prophet*, both of which she won Deseret Book's "Excellence in Writing Award." She has also written PBS documentaries and has edited and contributed to numerous compilations. She currently writes for *Music and the Spoken Word*

and conducts interviews for "Conversations" on the Mormon Channel. She recently returned from three years in Great Britain (2006-2009) where her husband Jeffrey C. Swinton, former Area Seventy, presided over the England London South Mission. She has served on the LDS Church Curriculum Writing Committee for *Teachings of the Presidents of the Church*, and the BYU Women's Conference Executive Committee. She has served as Vice Chair of This is The Place Heritage Park and the Salt Lake City Historical Landmarks Commission.

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



Marlin K. Jensen

On Thursday, Oct 5th at their monthly dinner meeting the Settlement Canyon Chapter of the Sons of Utah Pioneers had the privilege of listening Elder Marlin K. Jensen who was named a member of the First Quorum of the Seventy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on April 1, 1989. He served as Executive Director of the Church History Department and was sustained as Church Historian/Recorder in the April 2005 general conference. Previously

he served in the Presidency of the Seventy and as the Executive Director of the Curriculum, Historical, Priesthood, and Family and Church History Departments. He has served as the President of the Utah North, North America Northeast, and Europe Central Areas. He was president of the New York Rochester Mission from 1993 to 1995. Brother Jensen spoke about the History of the Church History Department.

TAYLORSVILLE-BENNION CHAPTER - Taylorsville, Utah

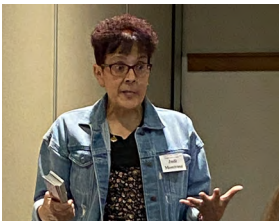


Joseph Smith jr.

The Taylorsville-Bennion Chapter meeting for October included a special guest. We had Joseph Smith Jr. and his wife Mariesa speak to us. They are a new couple that is going to be part of our chapter. Joseph Smith talked about his parents joining the Church. His parents are first generation members of the Church. His wife—Mariesa—spoke about her family history. Her grandfather, George Whitaker was taught by Parley P. Pratt on how to drive a team of horses in pulling a

wagon. Her fourth great grandmother, Elisa Chapman Gad came to America in 1856 with family and was part of the Willie handcart company and was baptized one week after arriving into the Salt Lake Valley. Her third great grandfather, Alfred Gad was asked by Willie to keep a journal of the trek across the plains. It was a very interesting presentation. Joseph and Mariesa will be a great addition to our chapter.

TEMPLE FORK CHAPTER - Logan, Utah



Judy Montrose

Greetings from beautiful Cache Valley. Fall is definitely in the air. We have had an amazing and beautiful fall, but winter can't be far away. We took our annual break in September to avoid any conflict with the encampment. We had a few chapter members attend the encampment and the reports were very positive. We did start up again in late September with a trek to the James

Willie homestead and museum in Mendon. This was a very good trek. Our October meeting was well attended and we had an excellent speaker, Judy Montrose. Mrs. Montrose taught us about pioneer medicine and medical care. This was a very good meeting. From Cache Valley we wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

TIMPANOGOS CHAPTER - American Fork, Utah



Lamont Crabtree

The Timpanogos Chapter dinner meeting was held on Thursday, September 26, 2023 at the American Fork, Utah Senior Citizen Center. The guest speaker Lamont Crabtree, Director of the Hole in the Rock Foundation, Author of articles of the Utah History Encyclopedia and the BYU Redd Center, author of the book "The Incredible Mission" and is active in the restoration work

of the Bluff Fort in Bluff, Utah. Mr. Crabtree gave an inspiring presentation about the incredible journey of 250 San Juan pioneers as they descended through a rocky crevice known as Hole in the Rock to the Colorado River. This expedition is one of the great stories in the history of the West.

UPPER SNAKE RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER - Rexburg, Idaho



Jerry Hansen

Musical Number: Heidi Pyper sang a song from the musical Hunchback of Notre Dame which highlighted tolerance and acceptance of others. It was the perfect song for our current political climate. The program featured Jerry Hansen, retired political science professor from BYU-Idaho, who presented "How to Stay Civil and Sane in Today's Political

Climate." Jerry's PowerPoint presentation was a masterful summary of the dynamics of politics. An excellent summary of principles was given by Senator Bennet at a BYU-Idaho Devotional. The reference to this talk and Professor Hansen's PowerPoint presentation will be made available to the chapter members and will be sent with the Chapter Newsletter.